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AGRICULTURAL CHEMISTRY.
THE COMMITTEE appointed by the Subscribers to the Fund for obtaining the Services of an AGRICULTURAL CHEMIST for Proprietors and Tenants in Scotland, hereby notify that they are ready to enter into engagement with any Chemist of eminence and experience, possessing at the same time a knowledge of Practical Agriculture, with the view of ascertaining the terms on which he would perform the duties required.

For information as to the terms of the appointment, application may be made to the Honorary Secretary of the Committee, Andrew Coventry, Esq., 10, West Strand. The encouragement of the Subscriptions is now wished; they may be sent to Mr. Coventry by Post Office orders, or paid through parties in Edinburgh. Persons still intending to join the Association, are requested to send in their names and their subscriptions without delay.

TO SUBSCRIBERS TO ART-UNIONS.
THE LEGALITY OF THE ROYAL POLYTECHNIC UNION OF LONDON is now clearly substantiated by the opinions of FITZROY KELLY, Esq. Q.C. and C. CLARKE, Esq. The Sons of Shakespeare, illustrated by the Etching Club, will continue to be presented to each Subscriber until the 1st of July, when the books will be closed.

PLAIN AND COLOURED PORTRAITS, by CLAUDET'S IMPROVED DAGUERRETYPE or PHOTOGRAPHIC PROCESS, are taken daily at the ROYAL ALBEMARLE GALLERY, West Strand. The encouragement of M. Claudet has received in France from the Académie des Sciences—the praise of the inventor, M. Daguerre—the honour of having taken the likeness of His Majesty King Louis XVIII.—the flattering notices he has had in the leading newspapers and scientific reviews, prove more than mere assertion the superiority of M. Claudet's process. The public is invited to inspect the collection of plain and coloured specimens exhibited at the Royal Albemarle Gallery. Price for single portrait, either bust or full length, 17. 1s., upon plate of the usual miniature size, and 18. 1s. upon plates six times larger—viz. 48 by 34 inches. Any number of duplicates of the same portrait at half-price. Colouring, 3s. for one-guinea portrait, and 10s. for five-guinea portraits.

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Sales by Auction.
POSTPONEMENT OF SALE OF ORGANIC REMAINS
TILL 8TH JUNE.
MESSRS. J. C. & S. STEVENS respectfully beg to announce that the SALE of MR. KOCK'S COLLECTION of REMAINS of the MASTODONTID ANIMALS of NORTH AMERICA, will take place on THURSDAY, 28 JUNE, instead of Thursday, 25th May, as before advertised. 25, King-street, Covent-garden, April 14, 1843.

SOUTHGATE'S ROOMS.
By HENRY SOUTHGATE & Co., at their Rooms, 22, Fleet-street, on FRIDAY, MAY 26, and three following days (Sunday excepted), at 10 o'clock.

A MISCELLANEOUS COLLECTION of BOOKS, including a Portion of the Library of the Rev. H. F. LYTE, including Gibbon's *Preservative from Popery*, 2 vols., *Encyclopædia Britannica*, 20 vols.—Gill's *Exposition of the Bible*, 9 vols.—Pantzer, *Annales Typographiques*, 11 vols.—Chalmers' *Biographical Dictionary*, 30 vols.—The Works of Horace, 12 vols.—Fulgentius, Robert Hall, Bishop Hall, Flavel, Secker, Hooker, Care, Clarke, Stillington, Calvin, Luther, Chillingworth, Sanderson, &c. Also a variety of Works in the German, Spanish, Italian, French, and French Languages; a quantity of Medical Books; &c. &c. May be viewed, and Catalogues had.

CAPITAL ENGLISH PICTURES.
By Messrs. CHRISTIE & MANSON, at their Great Room, King-street, St. James's-square, on MONDAY, MAY 22, at 1 precisely.

THE VERY CHOICE COLLECTION OF CAPITAL PICTURES, the Works of eminent English Masters, a Genuine Private Property, comprising the *Avalanche*, the celebrated work of Louthborough, from Lord de Talley's Collection—Cicero at his Villa, the original picture of Wilson, engraved by W. Verelst, Hubert and Prince Arthur by Marlowe—very fine Work of Morland—John Stanfield, R.A., and Specimens of the following distinguished Modern Artists:

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Vernet	A. Cooper, R.A.	Clater
Gainsborough	Ward, R.A.	Sturges
Constable	Leslie, R.A.	Knight
Smirke, R.A.	Hart, R.A.	Barker
Westall	Allen	Stevens
		Gill

May be viewed Friday and Saturday preceding, and Catalogues had, at Messrs. Christie & Manson's Offices, 8, King-street, St. James's-square.

MAGNIFICENT EFFECTS OF HIS LATE ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUKE OF SUSSEX.
Messrs. CHRISTIE & MANSON have the honour to inform the Nobility and Public, that they are directed by the Executors to SELL BY AUCTION, at their Great Room, King-street, St. James's-square, during the month of JUNE,

THE MAGNIFICENT COLLECTION of HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUKE OF SUSSEX, and removed from Kensington Palace. The first portion of this matchless Assemblage will consist of the celebrated Collection of French Engravings, Silver Plate, amounting to upwards of Forty Thousand Pieces, and including numerous exquisite Specimens of Cinque-Cento, German, Old English, and Oriental, as well as modern workmanship. The Sales of the other Property, consisting of the unique Collection of Clocks and Watches; the most superb assemblage of Ebony, Buhl, and Marble; the Furniture of Tortoiseshell and Ebony Cabinets; Oriental, Sevres, Dresden, and Royal German Porcelain; Bronze and Or-moulu Candelabra; the Collection of Engraving and other Pictures; Arms, Armour, and Jewels; Trinkets; Royal Portraits and Miniatures; and every variety of curious and highly-interesting objects of antiquity, taste, and worth, will follow in succession.—Due notice of the dates of Sale will be given.

SALE OF A COLLECTION OF CHOICE CABINET PICTURES, MANCHESTER.
Messrs. THOS. WINSTANLEY & SONS, of Liverpool, beg to announce that they have received directions from the Assignees to bring to peremptory UNRESERVED SALE BY AUCTION, the large Dining-room, Exchange, Manchester, on THURSDAY, the 25th May, instant, at 11 o'clock precisely.

THE GENUINE AND MUCH-ADMIRRED COLLECTION OF CABINET PICTURES, the Property of MR. JAMES JOHNSON, who, with acknowledged taste and judgment, has selected them from the most favourable opportunities, and with a cautious regard to their originality, subject, quality, and preservation. In the collection will be found a splendid picture of St. Cecilia, by Domenichino—the *Announcing Angel*, by Carlo Bonchi—*St. John the Baptist*, by Mengs, a chef-d'œuvre—the *Holy Family*, by Andrea del Sarto, a miniature gem—the *Angel Michael subduing the Dragon*, by Raffaele—a capital Portrait by Vanduyke—a *Fête Champêtre*, in the finest time and style of Watteau—a View in Venice, a genuine picture by Canaletti—Fruit and Flowers, by Van Os; &c. &c. The Dutch and Flemish Pictures are also of a pure and most desirable character, and the choice Interior, with Pictures, by Egion Van der Neer, Metz, Rembrandt, Jan Steen, Ostade, Bega, Brauwer, De Hooch, Hirsch, Van Scharen; &c. &c. Landscapes, with Cattle and Figures, by Paul Potter, Adrian Van der Velde, De Koninck, Jacob Ruysdael, Van der Neer, David Teniers, Isaac Ostade, and Karl du Jardin.—Sea Pieces and Coast Scenes, by William Van der Velde, Curp, Van der Capelle, Weenix, &c.—A noble Portrait of Admiral Keppel, by Sir Joshua Reynolds—a small repetition of the celebrated Landscape called *The White Monks*, and of the Falls of Tirol, by Richard Wilson—a fine Landscape, by Gainsborough; and a Ditto, by Constable.

The whole may be viewed on Tuesday, the 23rd, and Wednesday, the 24th instant, when Catalogues may be had (price 1s.) of Messrs. Agnew and Sons, Manchester, or of Messrs. Agnew, Chester; of Messrs. Winstanley, Auctioneers, Paternoster-row, London; at the Office of the Midland Counties Herald, Birmingham; and of Messrs. Thos. Winstanley & Sons, Auctioneers, &c. Liverpool.—To prevent intrusion, no person will be admitted without a Catalogue.

BOOKS OF PRINTS, ETC.
Mr. L. A. LEWIS will SELL BY AUCTION, at his House, 125, Fleet-street, on MONDAY, 20th.

MONTFAUCON, l'Antiquité Expliquée, et Supplément, 15 vols.—several Volumes of Bible Plates—Cottan's *Archæological Etchings*, 3 vols.—Granger's *Biographical History of England*, 3 vols. portraits—*Encyclopædia Metropolitana*, 20 vols.—Walpole's *Works*, 3 vols. russia—Poulson's *History of Holderness*—Turner's *Southern Coast Scenery*—Maudslayi's *Botanic Garden*, 5 vols.—Cove's *House of Austria*—*Biographie Universelle*, 50 vols.—Annual Register, from its commencement—Lodge's *Portraits*, first 50 parts—Watson's *Dendrologia Britannica*, 2 vols.—Pitt's *Speeches*—Chatham's *Speeches*—Books on Witchcraft, &c.

VALUABLE BOOKS IN QUIRES, STEREOTYPE PLATES, &c.
Mr. L. A. LEWIS will SELL BY AUCTION, at his House, 125, Fleet-street, on FRIDAY, June 2.

ALL the Remaining STOCK of Wachsmuth's *Antiquities of the Greeks*, by Woolrich, 3 vols. 8vo. 700 copies, elegantly printed at Oxford—Menzel's *History of German Literature*, 4 vols. 8vo. 400 copies, lately published—Döring's *Horace*, 8vo. 300 copies—Dr. Donne's *Devotions*, 1400 copies, elegantly printed at Oxford—Selections from the Works of Dr. Donne, elegantly printed at Oxford—Walker's *Games and Sports*, 700 copies, with the Stereotype Plates, Steel Plates, and Copyright—The Steel Plates and Copyright of Walker's *Ladies Exercise*, *The Pearl*, or *Daily Refreshment for Christians*, 1000 copies, with the Stereotype Plates and Copyright—Drawing-Room Botany, 940 copies, and the Copyright—De Quincy on the Fine Arts, the Stereotype Plates of Burder's *Sermons*, 8vo. 40 sheets—Percy's *Reliquia*, 3 vols. 8vo. 38 copies—Physiognomical Portraits, 3 vols. 14 copies—Land and Sea Tales, 1 vol. 56 copies—Scott's *Novels*, and other Works—6 vols. morocco—Valpy's *Family Classical Library*, 30 vols.; &c.

NATTALI'S CATALOGUE of BOOKS for MAY, issued in the form of a POST CIRCULAR, and forwarded GRATIS to all parts of the Kingdom by applying PAPER.

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NATIONAL LOAN FUND LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

THE FOURTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE

National Loan Fund Life Assurance Society was held on Wednesday at the London Tavern, for the purpose of making the Annual Report, choosing Directors in place of those going out of office, declaring a dividend on the shares of the Company, and a bonus to the policy-holders. The meeting was numerously attended; amongst the proprietors from the country we observed Mr. Adams, of Exeter, Dr. Heygate, from Derby, Capt. Heavside, from Brighton, Mr. Bees, of Newcastle, and Mr. Davies, of Liverpool, and Mr. Walker, of Northampton.

T. LAMIE MURRAY, Esq., took the chair, and after the notice calling the Meeting had been read by the Secretary, the Chairman said the business of the day was the presentation of the Report which the Directors had prepared to be laid before the Meeting, and also to submit their accounts as vouched by the Auditors, containing a statement of the profits and loss of the Society. The Report thus being prepared was, he hoped, of such a nature as, notwithstanding the difficulties of the times, to afford satisfaction to every proprietor. The Directors were also quite prepared to answer any questions as the present state and probable future progress of the Society that any proprietor might wish to put. He called on the Secretary to read the Report.

Mr. CAMROUX, the Secretary, then read the

FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT.

The Directors have again, on the occasion of the Fourth Annual General Assembly of the Society, much gratification in meeting the Proprietors.

The Directors have to report a continued state of depression throughout every branch of industry, which has only distinguished the past year from its immediate predecessors by the severity of its pressure on the resources of individuals. This state of things has been felt by none more severely than by establishments engaged in the business of Life Assurance, as it may be assumed that since it is the surplus income of the community that seeks a constant and profitable investment in Life Assurance, it is evident that whatever diminishes the source of it on the one hand, or increases the direct burden upon it on the other, must act for the time being as a such discouragement to its progress.

Notwithstanding the impetus given to the advancement of Life Assurance by the very wide promulgation of the principles of the "National Loan Fund Society," and which since its formation has been succeeded by no less than thirty new offices, yet, according to the annual reports of several Life Assurance Companies that have lately been made public, it appears there has been a great falling off as compared with former years in the number of new assurances, as well as a greater amount of policies abandoned than heretofore.

The "National Loan Fund Society" has, in common with every other similar establishment, though perhaps in a less degree than some, experienced the discouragement resulting from the state of general depression, but the Directors have reason to believe that, arising from its peculiar constitution, the Society has been comparatively less exposed to the loss of income through the inability of the assured to keep up his policy. This additional protection, so well tested in the past year, has satisfied the Directors of the great advantages of the plan of the Society. The new business since the last annual meeting has however decreased less from the causes referred to than might have been expected, the new policies entered upon in the year being fewer only by 22 than in the preceding one, while the result of the three last years shows a steady increase of 915 new policies, the number issued in 1840 being 1,236, and that at the present day amounting to 2,145, which circumstance leads the Directors to believe that the principles of the Society have obtained with the public a degree of favour seldom so decidedly manifested, notwithstanding the activity of competition which the struggles of both old and new offices have created.

From the indications which the business of the last few months have afforded, the Directors would faintly believe that the existing general depression, which they cannot too forcibly point out as a cause so injurious to the progress of life assurance, is gradually yielding to a better state of things, yet they are more disposed to depend for the future prosperity of the Society, than to anything else, on the prudence and economy of management, now that the Society has become so well known, and that there exists no longer any necessity for those expenses consequent upon the introduction of any new system.

Conformably with the constitution of the Society, the Directors have caused an investigation to be made into its affairs up to December, 1842, the result of which is now presented, together with the Auditors' report, which lies on the table, and which will be read to the Meeting.

The Auditors' report exhibits the working of the Society under three heads, namely—

No. 1. An account of the receipts and disbursements of the Society.

No. 2. The profit and loss account.

No. 3. The account of the assets of the Society.

Upon the basis furnished by these accounts, and in conformity with the Deed of Settlement, the Actuary has been engaged for some months past in estimating the liabilities of the office, in order to ascertain the profit or loss on its working. The results of this investigation are highly satisfactory. It enables the Directors to recommend, after appropriating 4,337. 11s. to the extinction of the expenses incurred in the formation of the Society, a bonus of 14,612s. amongst the policy-holders, and a dividend by way of bonus to the proprietors, nearly equal to 7½ per cent. on the stock, as their share of the profit accruing to them under the provisions of the Deed of Settlement.

The principle on which the division of profits to the policy-holders has been after mature consideration settled is, to allocate the profits divisible amongst the assured over every existing policy on the books of the Society, on the 30th of November last, proportionate to the contributions made, but to make a division only at the present moment to those policies on which five premiums have been paid. In this manner the policies entered upon in the year 1837 and 1838 will become at once entitled to the bonus of this year, as well as in every division that may be made in the next and succeeding years. The policies entered in the succeeding years will become respectively entitled to the present and future divisions after they have completed their first five annual premiums.

The present bonus to the policy-holders is equal to 55 per cent. on the annual premiums as a reversionary addition to the policy, 17½ per cent. in present cash, or 10 per cent. permanent annual reduction on future premiums. To make it more clear to the meeting, the Directors subjoin a few examples of the bonus proposed to be distributed, taken from the tables prepared by the Actuary.

Date of Entry.	Number of Policy.	Age.	Sum Assured.	Annual Premium.	Bonus in Addition to Sum Assured.	Bonus in Cash.	Permanent Reduction of Annual Premium.
1837	6	54	4,000	£. 20 0	£. 11 0	£. 17 0	5 s. 6 d.
	30	59	1,000	£. 6 8	£. 4 13 14	£. 6 58 19	9 s. 10 d.
1838	114	56	3,000	£. 175 15	£. 109 6	£. 7 123 0	6 16 s. 9 d.

The above advantages, which the working of the Society enables the Directors to recommend for distribution amongst the policy-holders, lead them to expect a continuous increase in its business.

The sums already paid since the commencement of the Society, and for which claims are admitted, amount to 21,018s. 12s. on 32 policies, of which those in the last year amounted to 8,202s.

In addition to the resolutions enabling the Directors to make the proposed division amongst the policy-holders and proprietors, the chief business of the Meeting is the election of four Directors, in lieu of

JOHN ELLIOTSON, M.D. F.R.S.
GEORGE LUNLEY, Esq.
CLEMENT TABOR, Esq., and
JOSEPH THOMPSON, Esq.,

whose period of office expires, but who are eligible to be re-elected, and offer themselves accordingly;

And for the election of two Auditors in place of
Professor WHEATSTONE, F.R.S., and
Professor GRAVES, A.M. F.R.S.,

whose period of office also expires, but who are eligible to be re-elected, and offer themselves accordingly.

T. LAMIE MURRAY, Chairman.

The Auditors' account was then read: its details fully bore out the statements of the Report of the Directors.

The Chairman wished to know, before any motion for adopting the Report was made, whether any shareholder had any question to put, as he was ready to answer it.

Capt. HEAVSIDE asked whether the branch establishments of the Society had succeeded?

The Chairman said they had, though some particular branches had not come up to their expectations.

Capt. HEAVSIDE had great pleasure in moving that the Report be received. It was highly gratifying to find that the affairs of the Society were managed so well.

The motion having been seconded.

The Chairman said, before he put the motion, he wished to make a few remarks. The Report stated, as every honest Report ought to do, that there had been a period of great depression, from the pressure of which no trade, however protected, had escaped. That pressure, he trusted, was, to a certain extent, subsiding, though how long it might yet continue it was impossible to say. The next thing their attention was called to, was the expense of establishing the Society. When the Society was first instituted, it created hopes on the part of the public, which he trusted this day's proceedings, and the accounts now rendered, would not disappoint. At the same time he must observe, that if the Society created hopes on one side, it also created competition on the other.—(Hear, hear.) Since the present office was established, thirty others had been formed under different auspices, with which they had had to compete in addition to the old offices. They were not afraid of meeting that competition; they had not acted unfairly themselves, and they had nothing to complain of on the part of the other offices. But the expense of establishing the Society was now at an end, and the Directors would refer to the expenses of the past year as having been brought within reasonable limits, and they might assure them that the expense in future years would be very moderate. With regard to the future progress of the Society, that must depend upon public opinion, and he believed that when the present Report was published, the public would not be slow to discern the advantages to be secured by belonging to the Society.

The fact of so large an addition being made to each policy, and now divided over those entered upon in the years 1837 and 1838, was not likely to escape the keen perception of the public. He had the pleasure of seeing one friend of his in the room who held a policy in the Society for 4,000s., his division on which amounted to 429s. 12s. 6d. These circumstances could not fail to secure an increase of business during the next year. He should have been glad if any gentleman had asked any questions, because there was not anything connected with the management of the Society that they were not prepared to explain. He concluded by announcing that the division of profits among the Shareholders amounted to 12½ per cent., including the 5 per cent. that had already been paid to the Proprietors.

The Report was then unanimously adopted. The retiring Directors, J. Elliotson, M.D. F.R.S., J. Thompson, Esq., G. Lunley, Esq., and Clement Tabor, Esq., having offered themselves for re-election were unanimously elected, as also were the two Auditors, Professor Wheatstone and Professor GRAVES.

Mr. SAMUEL WALKER (of Northampton), asked whether the Auditors' Report and the balance sheet would be printed and distributed among the Shareholders?

The Chairman said the Directors were in the hands of the meeting, but he believed it was very unusual to publish the very detailed items such as those presented constituting the accounts of insurance offices. They would be open for inspection at the office to any Shareholder, but he did not think it advisable to publish them. As far as the Directors were individually concerned, they did not care, but with regard to the Society the question was a matter of prudence.

Capt. HEAVSIDE thought they might place every confidence in the Directors.

The proposal was then withdrawn, but Mr. Walker put another question in reference to the same subject, which was, whether the branch local offices would be made acquainted with the accounts? He had attended from Northampton, and it was desirable that the local boards should possess the information; he suggested that a written abstract of the statements of the Auditors' account should be forwarded to the local boards in the provinces.

The Chairman said he did not wish to throw any doubt on the local boards, which were entitled to their confidence, but he would as soon publish the accounts in the newspapers as send them round in a mode suggested. He thought it would establish a bad precedent. It must be recollected that they had ninety rivals.—(Hear, hear.)

Mr. GRIFFITHS FRITH said he believed such a practice was not usual in any public company, as the items might get into the hands of parties inimical to their interests. As to its being necessary that the proceedings of the Society should be known, if the gentleman went down to the local board, and certified that the accounts had received the approbation of the meeting, in addition to the fact that they were open to inspection at the office, he thought it would be quite sufficient.

The Chairman said it must be borne in mind, that the same privilege was accorded to the shareholders that was accorded to the Directors themselves. The Directors were not permitted to take any abstract of any account or minutes from the office. They gave them exactly the same privilege as they took themselves. The Auditors' Report belonged exclusively to the Proprietors; they might examine it when they came to the office.

Capt. HEAVSIDE said he was the chairman of a local board, and if questions were put to him, if he said these accounts were correct, and were approved of by the meeting, he was sure that the local proprietors would have every confidence in him.

Mr. M. YOUNG said in a Society which appeared so well managed, they should place their reliance in the discretion of the Directors.

There being no question before the Board, the convention dropped.

Mr. S. WALCOT proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman and Board of Directors.

Mr. W. STUBLEY seconded the motion. He said, notwithstanding the great depression that had been going on throughout the country, and taking into account that they had received 5 per cent. on their capital, yet there was added now to that a bonus of nearly 7½ per cent. He confessed he had always been sanguine with respect to the progress of the Society, but its success had exceeded his most sanguine expectations. He was a large shareholder, having five hundred shares, and he should be happy to double that number. The National Loan Fund Life Assurance Society was based on principles that exceeded most others, and there could be no doubt that they had the feeling of the whole country with them. The Chairman was entitled to their best thanks, because the principles on which the Society was founded emanated from himself; and their thanks were also due to the Directors generally, inasmuch as they had carried out those principles to their fullest extent to the satisfaction of all parties. He cordially seconded the motion for a vote of thanks.

The Chairman, in acknowledging the vote, said, he was sure he expressed the general feeling of the Board when he stated the pleasure he felt at the unanimous feeling of satisfaction that had been exhibited at the meeting towards the Society. He had always thought that the time would come when the Society would show the value of the principles on which it was founded, and he had not been disappointed, which it was, and he lived to see his expectation confirmed. He trusted that future years would see a still greater progress in the Society; in fact, the Society had now obtained its legitimate position, and what it had done was nothing to what it was capable of doing.—(Hear.) He thanked them in the name of the Directors for the manner in which the motion had been received.

A residue of 209s. remaining after the payment of the bonus was, after some discussion, voted to the officers of the Society as a token of the approbation of the meeting, and of the zealous and able manner in which they had discharged their duties. A vote of thanks was then passed to the same gentlemen, and the meeting broke up.

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Directors: B. Boyd, Esq., Chairman. J. W. Sutherland, Esq., Vice-Chairman. W. P. Cranford, Esq., John Mitchell, Esq. George Webster, Esq., J. P. R. Robertson, Esq. John Connell, Esq., Adam Duff, Esq. Bankers—Union Bank of London, 5, Moorgate-street, Argyle-place, Regent-street, and Pall Mall East. Standing Counsel—P. Laurie, Esq. Solicitors—Messrs. Park and Walker, and Messrs. Johnstone and Farquhar. The Directors grant Letters of Credit and Bills at 30 days' sight on Sydney, Port Phillip, Hobart Town, and Launceston, free of charge. Bills transmitted for collection. By order of the Board, G. H. WRAY, Manager. Agents: R. Allen, Esq., 8, St. Andrew-square, Edinburgh; Messrs. H. Thompson & Co., Dublin; and John Harrison, Esq., Belfast.

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JOHN CHARLES DENHAM, Secretary. London, May, 1843.

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Age	One Year.	Seven Years.	For Life.	Age	For Life.
20	17 3	£0 19 11	£14 2 3	30	£17 4
30	1 13	1 18	2 17 3	40	3 7 7
40	1 6 10	1 11 10	2 17 11	50	3 3 2
50	1 5 1	1 4 3	1 17 1	60	4 15 9
60	3 8	2 10 11	6 15 9		

Tabular View of Additions to Policies of 100*l.*, opened at the commencement of the Month.

Age of Assured.	Sum Assured.	Bonus in 1835.	Bonus in 1842.	Sum now payable.
20	£1000	£100 0 0	£27 3 3	£1167 4 1
30	1000	100 0 0	89 0 0	1189 11 1
40	1000	113 11 1	103 11 7	1217 3 6
50	1000	122 12 2	120 12 2	1240 12 2
60	1000	166 17 2	215 16 8	1422 13 10

Edinburgh, 4th May, 1843. G. L. FINLAY, Manager. WM. DICKSON, Secretary.

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ACCOUNT OF THE SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS Announced at the ANNIVERSARY DINNER, WEDNESDAY, May 10, 1843.

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HIS IMPERIAL MAJESTY THE EMPEROR OF ALL THE RUSSIAS, 1000 Roubles silver, amounting to 155 18 5
THE CHAIRMAN, HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF SUTHERLAND 100 0 0

	£	s	d		£	s	d
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His Excellency Baron Brunnow, Russian Minister	10	0	0	Capt. Lamont, R.N.	1	0	0
His Excellency Chevalier Bunsen, Prussian Minister	10	0	0	John Lamb, Esq., D.C.L.	1	0	0
Samuel Blackburne, Esq.	5	0	0	George William Lovell, Esq.	5	0	0
John Blackwood, Esq., Steward	1	0	0	Charles Lever, Esq., Steward	10	0	0
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Samuel Cartwright, Esq., F.R.S., Steward	5	0	0	W. S. Orr, Esq.	3	0	0
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His Grace the Archbishop of Dublin	5	0	0	Claude Ferring, Esq., Steward	10	0	0
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John Dickinson, Esq.	10	0	0	His Excellency Count de Reventlow, the Danish Minister	5	0	0
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				A Friend	1	0	0

The Treasurers gratefully acknowledge the above Contributions to the Funds of the Society, and at the same time beg to state, that the sum of 29,063*l.* has been distributed by the Committee in 2,031 Grants to distressed authors, their widows and orphans. Further Subscriptions and Donations in aid of these benevolent objects will be thankfully received and acknowledged by the Treasurers, JOHN GRIFFIN, Esq., 21, Bedford-place; SIR HENRY ELLIS, K.H., British Museum; and WILLIAM TOOKE, Esq., Bedford-row; and by the Secretary, at the Society's Chambers, 73, Great Russell-street.

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Whittaker & Co., Ave Maria-lane.

LONDON, SATURDAY, MAY 20, 1843.

REVIEWS

The Life of Joseph Addison. By Lucy Aikin. 2 vols. Longman & Co.

THE 'Memoirs of Charles the First,' of 'Elizabeth,' and of 'James,' have made Miss Aikin extensively known as one of the most instructive and agreeable of contemporary historical writers, dispassionate in judgment and patient in the sifting of evidence. Her temperance of disposition (not to call it the common sense of a thoroughly cultivated person) fits her admirably for the task she has here undertaken. The tone of advocacy, however, which she has assumed throughout, has provoked some strictures, and will provoke more. Miss Aikin gives her sympathies exclusively to the polished scholar, the moral man, the judicious friend—never throwing away a point which may be marked to his credit, and, by contrast, casting heavy reproach on those rebuked by his virtuous equanimity: hence certain popular feelings could not fail to be awakened by her book, and she must be content to bear the covert imputation of being the apologist for cold-heartedness and worldly wisdom. With the world, the designations of "poor Steele" applied in love, and "moral Addison" affixed in sarcasm, will be too long the accepted nomenclature. Against the saddening perversity of these epithets all who love literature sincerely are found from time to time to protest. How many wasted existences—how many broken hearts—how much reproach justly cast on the most richly endowed!—what a sum of opportunities neglected, gifts misused, and pleasures unenjoyed, is implied in this one-sided sympathy! And yet the charitable might overlook it, did they not see, in this fond lingering over the past, misfortunes preparing for the future. What avail societies for the union and protection of literary men, so long as they select for especial commendation dispositions and habits leading to those follies and licences whereby the very name of Genius is made synonymous with all that is hollow, unsound, and erratic? We are not taking the side of the prosperous in our protest; for what is the amount of his misfortune who has always hearts to care for him, and hands to bear him up, compared with the solitary estate of the man who is misconstrued, derided, and counted as mean, sordid, and self-seeking by the generous spirits of his own time and the future? Neither are we ranging ourselves among the indiscriminate defenders of Addison's virtue; but it is needful that from time to time the balance should be adjusted; and especially now, when the position and influence of literary men, as a class, substantive and self-dependent, are beginning to excite attention among themselves.

Without more preamble, this book contains the first complete life of Addison ever put forth, its pages being enriched by some hitherto unpublished letters, communicated by Mr. Tickell of Dublin, descendant of the essayist's executor. Miss Aikin begins her task by a minute biographical notice of Dr. Addison, Dean of Lichfield, of whom Joseph, our subject, was eldest son: born at Milston, near Ambrosebury, Wilts, on May-day, 1672. The boy, Miss Aikin divines, was father of the shy and silent "short-faced gentleman," whose acuteness of observation passed unmolested behind the screen of excessive modesty:—

"Having, while at a country school in his father's neighbourhood, committed some trifling fault, the dread of punishment or disgrace so affected his imagination as to prompt him to make his escape into the fields and woods, where he is said to have subsisted on fruits, and lodged in a hollow tree, till discovered and brought back to his parents."

Joseph Addison, however, was early placed in the best possible situation to get rid of this sensitiveness, by being sent to the Charter-House, as a private pupil. There he made affectionate friendship with Richard Steele. From the first, the fortunes of the 'Tatler' and the 'Spectator' were as dissimilar as their dispositions. "Poor" Dick—to use one of the expressive phrases of his birth-place, Ireland—seems to have been "a struggler" from his infancy; destitute of patrimony—"obliged to his uncle Gascoine for a liberal education"—thrown upon life to scramble for Fortune's good things as he best might—now a comedy-writer—now a trooper in the Horse Guards. "Moral" Joseph was the offspring of a lettered and not unprosperous clergyman, and passed easily from home to school, from school to Oxford, from Oxford to the grand tour, which was then thought indispensable for the perfect training of a youth of family and promise. We know little of Addison's university life, beyond the facts that he was very nervous, that he performed the functions of academic tutor to one Sir John Harper, and that a meadow-walk under a row of trees, still bears his name. When he was eighteen, in recognition of the beauty of a set of Latin verses, he was elected Semi-Communarius of Magdalen College:—

"Among those elected at the same time with Addison were the noted Sacheverell, Boulter, who became primate of Ireland, and Smallbrooke, afterwards a theologian of some note. Addison became probationary Fellow in 1697, and actual Fellow the following year."

A compliment in verse, addressed by Addison to Dryden, in 1693, is the first notice we find of the former having used his mother tongue in rhyme. Those were the days of adulatory poems and fulsome dedications; and therefore one may fairly be marked to the credit of Addison's heart, that the object selected by his early muse should be neither peer nor statesman, but a waning and not very prosperous poet:—

"Soon afterwards, the ambition of emulating what he praised, engaged Addison himself in a translation of the second Georgic, of which the elder poet complacently remarked, after this, 'my second swarm is scarce worth the hiving.' This courtesy was again requited on the part of the younger, by the humble but welcome service of supplying arguments to most of the books of the *Æneid*, and by the present of a critical essay on the Georgics, which Dryden printed as a preface to his own translations, but, by the special desire of the author, without his name."

The question of Addison's Greek scholarship, which was doubted by Dr. Johnson, is set at rest by documents Miss Aikin produces, in which it is proved that the young man was engaged by Tonson, the bookseller, to superintend and contribute to a translation of Herodotus. The translation of the second book of Ovid also belongs to this period. His critical bias, too, was evidenced about this time, in the epistle addressed to Mr. Henry Sacheverell, containing 'An Account of the greatest English Poets, from Chaucer to Dryden.' This was written before he had even read Spenser; and therefore he may, on the score of ignorance, be excused if the author of the 'Faëry Queene' fared but indifferently, while Cowley, and even Sprat, were pompously lauded. How time corrected these immature judgments, is recorded in the pages of the 'Spectator.'

About the year 1695, the Oxford student, according to the literary fashion of his time, offered to King William, on his return from the continent, the homage "of a paper of verses." This, Miss Aikin further regards as a profession of Whig faith; and that it might not want proper introduction, it was inscribed to Lord Somers. The statesman was charmed with the

dedication, begged to see Addison, and became his warm patron. A subsequent Latin poem, written in celebration of the Peace of Ryswick, procured the successful youth the protection of Montagu, afterwards Earl of Halifax. The seed thus sown produced a golden harvest. At the age of twenty-five, Addison, being still a college tutor, and so ill repaid, or so poor a manager as to be burdened with debts, was pressed by his father to take orders. Against this, however, the conscience, the modesty, or the ambition of Addison protested; he was enabled to enlist on his side Montagu, who not only stood between him and importunities from the head of his college on this important point, but placed him in a condition to wait for advancement, by procuring for him a Crown pension of 300*l.* a-year which was given on the express condition that he should qualify himself for office by foreign travel. Before Addison set out on his tour, he provided himself with a printed letter of introduction, in the form of a second volume of the 'Musæ Anglicanæ,' containing his best Latin poems, which was to be used by him as a credential to eminent foreign scholars. It now reads almost like a jest, to find Tickell stating, that it was from a present of this volume, that "the famous M. Boileau first conceived an opinion of the English genius for poetry."

Addison commenced his grand tour in the summer of 1699; and the narrative of it is scantily but agreeably illustrated by his letters. From these we shall offer a few fragments. Devoid though they be of Pope's polish, or Gray's grace, or Walpole's wit—they are still acceptable as the utterances of what Miss Aikin justly calls "a wary and observant spirit," and as coherent with the opinions more formally published at a later period of their writer's life. The passages do not need connecting links; the first is dated *Paris*, 1699:—

"As for the state of Learning; There is no Book comes out at present that has not some thing in it of an Air of Devotion. Dacier has bin forc'd to prove his Plato a very good Christian before he ventures upon his Translation, and has so far comply'd with y^e Taste of the Age that his whole book is over-run with Texts of Scripture, and y^e notion of præ-existence supposed to be stol'n from two verses of the prophets. Nay y^e Humour is grown so universal that it is got among y^e Poets who are ev'ry day publishing Lives of Saints and Legends in Rhime."

To improve himself in the French language, Addison took up his residence at Blois. Why Miss Aikin, in quoting the following passage which a certain Abbé Philippeaux contributed to Spence, should stop to accuse the reporter of "a little and vulgar mind" it is not easy to tell: had she been able to gather more such details of Addison's manner of life, her biography would have gained in interest:—

"Mr. Addison stayed above a year at Blois. He would rise as early as between two and three in summer, and lie abed till between eleven and twelve in the depth of winter. He was untalkative while here, and often thoughtful; sometimes so lost in thought, that I have come into his room and stayed five minutes there before he has known anything of it. He had his masters generally at supper with him, kept very little company besides; and had no amour whilst here, that I know of; and I think I should have known it if he had had any."

We shall here give Addison's picture in little of Fontainebleau. Times are changed since its surroundings could pass with the traveller for "savage prospects":—

"It is situated among rocks and woods that give you a fine variety of Savage prospects. The King has Humour'd the Genius of the place, and only made use of so much art as is necessary to Help and regulate Nature without reforming her too much

The cascades seem to break through the Clefts and cracks of Rocks that are cover'd over with Moss, and look as if they were piled upon one another by Accident. There is an Artificial Wildness in the Meadows, Walks and Canals, and y^e Garden instead of a Wall is Fenc'd on the Lower End by a Natural mound of Rock-work that strikes the Eye very Agreeably. For my part I think there is something more charming in these rude heaps of Stone than in so many Statues, and wou'd as soon see a River winding through Woods and Meadows as when it is toss'd up in such a Variety of figures at Versailles."

Addison's feeling for art did not, then, get beyond the *Galerie des Glaces* at Versailles:—"The history of the present King, till y^e Year 16*, is painted on the Roof by Le Brun, so that his Majesty has Actions enough by him to Furnish another Gallery much Longer than the first. He is represented with all the Terror and Majesty that you can Imagine in ev'ry part of the picture, and sees his Young face as perfectly drawn in the Roof as his present one in the side. The Painter has represented His most X'tian Majesty under y^e figure of Jupiter throwing thunderbolts about the cieling and striking terror into y^e Danube and Rhine that lie astonished and blasted wth Lightning a little above the Cornice."

Though not liable to any special "impeachment" according to Philippeaux, the Spectator still used his eyes at Blois sufficiently to discover that Frenchwomen were—

"—perfect Mistresses in this Art of showing themselves to the best Advantage. They are always gay and sprightly and set off y^e worst Faces in Europe with y^e best airs. Ev'ry one knows how to give herself as charming a Look and posture as St. Godfrey Kneller c^d draw her in."

In a subsequent letter we find him complaining of the "fogs and German counts" which infested Blois. "The last," he adds impatiently,—"are a kind of Gentlemen that are just come wild out of their country, and more noisy and senseless than any I have yet had y^e honour to be acquainted with. They are at y^e Cabaret from morning to night, and I suppose come into France on no other account but to Drink."

To these we shall add a portrait of him who was induced to admit the existence of English poetical genius, by perusal of the 'Musæ Anglicanæ':—

"Among other Learned men I had y^e honour to be introduc'd to Mr. Boileau, who is n:w retouching his works and putting 'em out in a new Impression. He is old and a little Deaf but talks incomparably well in his own calling. He heartily hates an Ill poet and throws himself into a passion when he talks of any one that has not a high respect for Homer and Virgil. I don't know whether there is more of old Age or Truth in his Censures on y^e French writers, but he wonderfully decrys y^e present and extols very much his former contemporaries, especially his two intimate friends Arnaud and Racine. I askt him whether he thought Telemaque was not a good modern piece: he spoke of it with a great deal of esteem, and said that it gave us a better notion of Homer's way of writing y^a translation of his works could do, but that it falls however infinitely short of y^e Odyssey, for Mentor, says he, is eternally Preaching, but Ulysses shows us ev'ry thing in his character and behaviour y^t y^e other is still pressing on us by his precepts and Instructions. He said y^e punishment of bad Kings was very well invented, and might compare with any thing of that nature in y^e 6th Eneid, and that y^e deceit put on Telemaque's Pilot to make him misguide his master is more artful and poetical than y^e Death of Palinurus. * * He talk'd very much of Corneille, allowing him to be an excellent poet, but at y^e same time none of y^e best Tragique writers, for that he declaimed too frequently and made very fine Descriptions often when there was no occasion for 'em. Aristotle, says he, proposes two passions y^t are proper to be rais'd by Tragedy, Terror and Pity, but Corneille endeavours at a new w^b is Admiration. He instanc'd in his Pompey (w^h he told us y^e late Duke of Condy thought y^e best Tragedy y^t was ever written) where in y^e first scene y^e King of Egypt runs into a very pompous and long

* The sixteenth year of his reign must be meant.

description of y^e battle of Pharsalia, tho' he was then in a great hurry of affairs and had not himself bin present at it."

For notices of Addison's tour through Italy and Switzerland, Miss Aikin is indebted to his published volume of travels. We shall draw sparingly on this portion of his life, seeing that its details, thus derived, are familiar to most lovers of literature; enough to say, that all which Miss Aikin has skillfully abstracted from the record tells favourably for its writer, both as to head and heart. Even she, however, is here driven to regret the absence of personal details, concerning his "life and conversation." We shall join company for a moment with the traveller at Geneva, from which city he addresses a pleasant letter to Mr. Chamberlain Dashwood, in acknowledgment of a snuff-box. This will probably be one of the most popular pages of the new biography:—

"Dear Sir,—About three days ago, Mr. Bocher put a pretty snuff-box in my hand. I was not a little pleas'd to hear that it belonged to myself, and was much more so when I found it was a present from a Gentleman that I have so great an honour for. You did not probably foresee that it wou'd draw on you y^e trouble of a Letter, but you must blame yourself for it. For my part I can no more accept of a Snuff-box without returning my acknowledgements, than I can take snuff without sneezing after it. This last I must own to you is so great an absurdity that I should be ashamed to confess it, were not I in hopes of correcting it very speedily. I am observ'd to have my Box oftner in my hand than those that have bin used to one these twenty years, for I cant forbear taking it out of my pocket whenever I think of Mr. Dashwood. You know Mr. Bays recommends Snuff as a great provocative to Wit, but you may produce this Letter as a standing Evidence against him. I have since y^e beginning of it taken above a dozen pinches, and still find myself much more inclin'd to sneeze than to jest. From whence I conclude that Wit and Tobacco are not inseparable, or to make a Pun of it, tho' a Man may be master of a snuff-box,

"Non cuiusque datum est habere Nasum."

I should be afraid of being thought a Pedant for my Quotation did not I know that y^e Gentleman I am writing to always carries a Horace in his pocket. But whatever you may think me, Pray St do me y^e Justice to esteem me."

While returning home, Addison's hopes of advancement received a shock in the downfall of the ministry which had befriended him, his pension being suspended, while his unpaid Oxford debts waited for him in England. Little is known of the manner in which the time of vicissitude and anxiety was passed, beyond what may be gathered from Dean Swift's libel on Delany and Carteret: in which he points to neglect shown to Addison by his quondam patrons, and to a tutorship his necessities forced him to accept. This neglect Miss Aikin earnestly denies, and with proofs in her hand, from letters, &c. As to the tutorship, Swift's allusion possibly refers to the negotiation entered into, through Tonson, with the Duke of Somerset, which failed on the discussion of terms. The disappointment felt by Addison on the occasion must have been darkened by the news from home, which reached him while in Holland, of the death of his father. He returned to England late in 1703, to meet his difficulties, and try his fortune as a man of letters; making his *début* as a member of the Kitcat Club, into which association of choice spirits he was elected shortly after his arrival; and by way of inaugural discourse, giving (as the usage was) a motto to a drinking-glass, in honour of the beauty of the Countess of Manchester, his *toast*. But sterner subjects presently called his powers forth. On the arrival of the news of the battle of Blenheim, Lord Treasurer Godolphin applied to Lord Halifax for some one possessing the pen of an eloquent writer, who was capable of turning to account so momentous an event. After some "yea and

nay," Addison was named;—invited to do his best by no less a person than Mr. Boyle the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and fe'd before-hand, by a commissionership of the Exchequer. 'The Campaign' was the offspring of this encouragement, a *pièce d'occasion*, as utterly forgotten now, as it was loudly praised in its day. Nay, so admirably was the poet thought to have acquitted himself of his appointed task, that the promises, of which the Commissionership was but earnest, were in a short time fulfilled, in the shape of his appointment as Under-Secretary of State to Sir Charles Hedges. At the age of thirty-four, then, we find the man of letters placed beyond the reach of those storms of fortune which so perilously shake—

the garreters, who border on the sky.

But that his official career was not to monopolize his best thoughts he very presently gave evidence: since it was in the year succeeding to his nomination that his opera, 'Fair Rosamond,' was produced to Clayton's music. The piece failed; and of course Miss Aikin, as special pleader, lays every blame upon the unlucky Clayton. We think the poet deserves his share also, since we dare to add, that a large proportion of the verses of 'Rosamond' are of little higher order than the namby-pamby rhyme of the Italian *libretti*, of which no one was more intolerant than "the Spectator." But for the sake of the will, we forgive the deed: and the intention was in those days so new and so eminently calculated to excite ridicule, that he must be indeed a Smellfungus who would pause to comment on the feeblenesses of its execution.

Somewhere about this time it was that Addison's connexion with the Warwick family began: and a letter to the young lord chimes in here pleasantly, after our notice of music; besides foreshowing that courteous play of humour for which "the Spectator" was soon to become so celebrated:—

"My dearest Lord.—I can't forbear being troublesome to your Lordship whilst I am in your neighbourhood. The business of this is to invite you to a concert of music, which I have found out in a neighbouring wood. It begins precisely at six in the evening, and consists of a blackbird, a thrush, a robin-redbreast and a bullfinch. There is a lark that by way of overture sings and mounts till she is almost out of hearing; and afterwards, falling down leisurely, drops to the ground as soon as she has ended her song. The whole is concluded by a nightingale that has a much better voice than Mr^s Tofts, and something of the Italian manner in her divisions. If your Lordship will honour me with your company, I will promise to entertain you with much better music and more agreeable scenes, than ever you met with at the opera."

About this period, too, we begin to find traces of a renewal of the old intimacy between Addison and Steele, whom, indeed, the Secretary seems to have retained as assistant. We will allow Miss Aikin to state the much-vexed question of obligation and harshness between "poor Dick" and "moral Joseph" in her own best manner:—

"There are traces in these letters of some pecuniary transactions between the friends: Steele informs his wife, in August 1708, that he has 'paid Mr. Addison the whole 1000*l*.' and at a later period he says, 'Mr. Addison's money you will have to-morrow noon.' No part of the correspondence affords the slightest confirmation of the story willingly received by Johnson, but discredited by Thyer, of Addison's having put an execution into the house of his friend to recover a hundred pounds which he had lent him. Steele, in one account, is said to have told the circumstance with tears in his eyes; another version of the story makes the debt 1000*l*., and represents Addison as remitting to Steele the balance of the produce of the execution, 'with a genteel letter,' informing him that he had taken this step in order to awaken him to a sense of the inevitable ruin awaiting him from his habits of negligence and profusion; Steele, it is added, took

the warning in good part, and believed the proceeding designed to do him service. Tales thus contradictory carry their refutation with them; but when, at a later period, Steele, in one of his frequent exigencies, informs his wife that he has raised money elsewhere, 'but was denied by his friend,' it is no improbable conjecture that Addison might be the person referred to. The accurate Dr. Birch had doubtless some grounds for the observation, that their friendship endured to the end, 'with a few little bickerings on economical occasions.' When we consider the profligacy—almost the insanity—of Steele's profusion, in contrast with the undeviating economy and prudence by which Addison preserved himself free from temptations to private dishonesty or political baseness which might have proved too strong for his virtue, it will appear certain that his purse could not at all times have been opened so freely as we find that it had once been, to the selfish and unprincipled importunities of his reckless associate."

Here we must pause, for Addison's election to the representation of Lostwithiel and Malmsbury, his abortive oratorical attempt in Parliament, followed by no second essay, and, lastly, his appointment as Irish secretary, are briefly dispatched. In a life, on the whole, so level as Addison's, and so scantily chronicled by himself and his contemporaries, his works form the most interesting features: and those by which he won his fame are yet to be spoken of.

The Country House. With Designs. Edited by Lady Mary Fox. Murray.

'EDITED' has of late become a very ambiguous term. We may, however, in this instance, admit at once that the lady who appears as editor, is certainly not the author of the work; on the contrary, she appears to have assumed that her editorial office was a mere sinecure. Nor does the corrector of the press appear to have discharged his duties much better. Though a sort of *boudoir* volume, handsomely got up in regard to paper, type, decorations, with tastefully lithographed designs, it is so disfigured by errors of the press, orthographical mistakes, and false punctuation—to say nothing of many carelessnesses of expression, which it was the special duty of an editor to amend,—as to be almost a literary curiosity. Some of the blunders are palpable enough, evidently the result of sheer inattention, and withal, rather amusing. Sir R. Smirke, for instance, is metamorphosed into "Sir R. Smirties," and Mr. Cockerell into "Mr. Cocherell." Such misprints, too, as "masterly" instead of "mastery," may pass as trifles, nor is it of much importance though one of the ornamented initial letters—therefore not picked up in haste and in error by the compositor—is a C instead of an A; but, that there should be so many oversights of the kind, and more especially that blunders in punctuation, turning some sentences into nonsense, should have passed undetected, does not say much for either editor or printer; but more than it would be complimentary to repeat. One of the worst examples of this carelessness occurs at page 55, here it is:—

"In approving the common practice of placing statues and bas-reliefs in statue has generally the advantage of being seen," &c.

The reader will probably rub his eyes, as we did, and read this passage over and over again. To save him trouble, we will mention that four lines have been transposed! and such carelessness in a work of considerable pretension, brought out under the patronage of Her Majesty, who subscribes for five copies, and of the Queen Dowager, who takes ten! It is a specimen of what we believe is, in printing-office phrase, called *pie*.

Oh! is not this a charming pie to set before a Queen!

But enough of the cooks and their blunders;—of what kind and flavour is the meat—

the book itself? To which we reply, relishing and good; but there is not quantity enough to satisfy a healthy appetite. However, it may not be amiss first of all to explain what is the subject; because neither the title nor the editor's name can have prepared our readers for it; while the information that it is published for the benefit of the "Royal Schools of Industry at Kensington," would lead them to expect something altogether different, since it might with more propriety have been published for the benefit of the "Institute of British Architects"—the subject being architecture and matters of taste. In fact, the volume professes to consist of a correspondence between M. de Chateaufort, the German architect, and a gentleman in this country, who had consulted him about a country residence which he proposed to erect; and the plans and designs for which, as suggested by the architect, form the subjects of the lithographic engravings. So then, some will say, the enemy is got into our very camp! Even so; but the work is one from which many valuable hints and ideas may be derived,—not perhaps, by those who merely peruse it, but by those who will take the pains to study it. What we chiefly object to is, that there is somewhat too much on the subject of style generally, and on the choice of it; and too little on that of the particular design itself, although the latter would have afforded opportunity for a great deal of judicious comment. To say the truth, discussion on style in the abstract is now becoming somewhat a bore, and serves rather to impede than advance the progress of architecture. After all, its different styles can be considered only as so many different languages of the art; nor does it by any means follow that the perfection of the language employed secures equal perfection and mastery for all that is produced in it. On the contrary, the very same style which in the hands of one man seems full of intelligence, expression, and energy, becomes, in those of another, inane, feeble, and tasteless. People may go on prating about styles, and yet be as far off as ever from the real mark; they may prove by argument that such or such style is the very best imaginable, yet, at the very same time, show in their productions that they are unable to enter into the spirit of it, or to do it justice. Debate as long as we may, the grand secret after all is to treat the style adopted, whatever it may be, *con amore*; not only to be able to enter into its character, but to be able also to discern the farther development which it may be susceptible of,—a secret which can hardly be said to be worth learning, because those who can make use of it, find it out instinctively for themselves, while those who cannot, are not much assisted by knowing that they lack the natural pre-requisite, without which no man can become an *artist* in the higher meaning of the word, although he may attain to a "very respectable" rank in his profession, and even become a "fashionable architect." Industry, diligence, perseverance, will certainly accomplish a great deal, but they never can supply the place of that internal, incommunicable, vivifying spirit which constitutes what we call genius. Wonderful as are the discoveries of modern science, no one has yet discovered the power of communicating mental inspiration and intense feeling; not even the academicians of Laputa proposed so extravagant a scheme as that of rendering art *à la portée de tout le monde*, or attainable by persons of "the meanest capacity." Rules and theories are serviceable enough in their way; they are the leading-strings and go-carts for beginners; yet even leading-strings and go-carts avail little, if the legs and feet that should be exercised by them are wanting.

We are now, however, indulging in a strain which the occasion hardly warrants, for there is something almost ludicrous in speaking of genius, inspiration, enthusiasm, in regard to a branch of art which so many of those who profess it, and who would fain make the world believe that it is transcendental, strive to reduce to the driest mechanical rules, and accommodate to the calibre of the *Pecksniffs*. Cutting short, therefore, further remarks of the kind, we will turn at once to the letters which passed between M. Chateaufort and the correspondent who consulted him. Whether they were written with a view of being printed, we know not, but the letters of the German architect are not much like those of a man of business; and too formally studied, perhaps, to be so attractive and instructive as if they had been more familiar in tone and less "bookish" in manner. Such, at least, is the case with the first of them, which contains a great deal that people will be rather impatient of; some because it is too abstruse and philosophical, others because it consists of little more than the vague generalities and stereotyped common-places of criticism. When, on being asked what style he would recommend for the house his employer purposes erecting, an architect begins by adverting to the history and principles of his art, we almost fancy we hear the cry of "In the name of the Prophet! Figs!" and, after all, to what does it amount in the present instance? *Moonshine*;—at any rate, we have been unable to collect from this letter a single fresh idea or hint, since all the illustration it affords is of the *obscurum per obscurius* kind; whereas, had the writer canvassed the respective recommendations and defects of the various styles now in use, showing how the first might be further improved, and the others got rid of, he would have rendered us an essential service. One of the most intelligent remarks we meet with is—

"I have not spoken of a merely mixing up of different styles, but of compounding them together; between which two processes, there is, I conceive, a wide difference; the ingredients being merely put together, in the one case without losing their respective qualities; while, in the other, they amalgamate with each other, and produce an entirely new combination; and it is in accomplishing combinations of this kind that the power of genuine art manifests itself; and the distinction may be likened to a difference between a mechanical and a chemical combination. Nor are some compound styles of architecture less beautiful than others which are quite unmixed."

With this we agree; yet though the remark itself is a valuable and pregnant one, it is expressed too oracularly, since the principle involved in it requires to be rather fully explained and illustrated by instances, either positive or hypothetical. It is not every one who can seize hold of such a mere hint, follow it out, and discover what after all is the main point—the how such a felicitous combination is to be accomplished. It may indeed be said, that that now is one of those things which cannot be taught; nevertheless, something like satisfactory evidence might be afforded of it, by reference to cases which would serve to point out where it has been accomplished already, if not completely, at least to a certain degree. As that has not been done, the reader is rather tantalized than instructed; and there is besides a provokingly vague indistinctness pervading all that is said on the subject of style. If the writer does not conceal his candle under a bushel, he has certainly put it into a horn lantern of such opacity that the rays serve only to make the darkness visible. What we chiefly gather is, that he is a staunch advocate for free treatment of style, with regard rather to "capabilities," than to actual precedents; wherein we consider him to

be right, since otherwise design becomes nothing better than pains-taking, copying, and working samplers in stone.

"At various periods (he observes) men have shown themselves either barbarous or puerile in their notions on art; yet never till now such slavish copyists, such mere plagiarists, such mocking birds in style. You may judge by this sally in what an ill-humour I am at finding that you would shut me up in a cage and there make me sing. If you examine your Elizabethan architecture with some little critical attention, you will hardly fail to perceive, that with all its richness of expression, the elementary sounds are no more harmonious than the crowing of a cock or the braying of an ass."

Whatever may be thought of the sauciness with which this opinion is expressed, the opinion itself deserves attention, now that the "Elizabethan" has come again into vogue as a mere architectural fashion, not as the basis of a style to be carried on and extended, and to be moulded and fashioned according to present exigencies and circumstances, but to be implicitly followed as an express pattern, even in its defects, which are neither few nor inconsiderable.

M. Chateaufort might have protested also against the similar "mocking-bird" system in regard to other styles, in fact to any and every style of the art, as being the reverse of that "free appropriation and adaptation of the elements" of style which he recommends. Exquisite, for instance, as are the "elementary sounds" of Grecian architecture, in themselves, they are frequently rendered most gratefully discordant by those who pique themselves on being exceedingly "classical," merely because they have not a single idea of their own which would enable them to deviate a hair's breadth from their copy-book. To say the truth, there has been too much empty and disputatious logomachy in regard to styles and their respective appellations. The excellence of the style itself is no pledge beforehand for the merit of what has to be produced in it; so far, therefore, we may lay down as a tolerably safe rule, that "Whatever is best administered is best," since, after all is said and done, so much depends on the particular application of the style, and the degree of geniality with which it is treated. Theories and rules are very good sign-posts to direct you as to the road you are to take, but they will not protect you from tumbling into a ditch, or assist you in getting out again.

Whatever useful hints and instructions may be gathered from M. Chateaufort's remarks with his pen, he has not been particularly happy in the design he here brings forward, as a carefully studied idea for an English "Country House." Most certainly he has allowed himself to go very far beyond his employer's ideas, for though the latter asks for what, even with after-additions will not exceed the cost of from 10,000*l.* to 12,000*l.*, he furnishes him with designs that could not be executed for less than three times as much, and that for merely the building itself, independently of fresco-painting and other interior decoration. Since it turns out, however, to be a mere *project*, the question of cost is not of so much moment as the value of the design itself as a study; and we are compelled to say, that the plan is defective in regard to *economy*, whether it be merely pecuniary, or that architectural economy which ought to regulate the distribution and arrangement of the interior, so as to secure, together with perfect convenience, a considerable degree of effect, independent of embellishment. So far is the design from being recommended by convenience or happy contrivance, as to be, in many important respects, singularly ill-contrived and inconvenient. In fact, one or two of the more obvious defects of the plan are pointed out to the architect by his employer or correspondent; yet we

meet with no direct reply to them, or any suggestion for getting rid of them. They are accordingly suffered to remain, and may now serve to exercise the ingenuity of the student in devising means for obviating them, or showing how they might have been obviated, without greatly disturbing either the original plan or any part of the exterior.

Unsatisfactory as this volume is in several respects, it is still, upon the whole, one of interest and novelty. The *pro* and *con* of opinions and remarks has in it something attractive and instructive; and there is an observation by M. Chateaufort himself, which, were it attended to as it deserves, would do more for the advancement of architecture than many volumes. We will therefore conclude by here quoting it:—

"So far, indeed, am I from wishing you to decide at once in favour of what I propose, I am most of all solicitous that you should as completely comprehend not only the general scheme, but the contemplated effect of every part. Undoubtedly it is very pleasant to an architect, to meet with an employer disposed to give him *carte-blanche*, and permission to follow out his own ideas unrestrictedly; yet it is still more delightful to meet with one, who, instead of merely acquiescing, assents from conviction, after deliberate study of the ideas submitted to him, and from the lively interest he takes in them."

This is admirably thought on the part of the writer, but the editor, as our readers will observe, has suffered it to appear in strange English.

Past and Present. By Thomas Carlyle.

(Second Notice.)

WE promised in our former notice to bring forward some of those plain truths, half truths, and partial truths scattered throughout Mr. Carlyle's volume, and we now proceed to fulfil that promise. How much is there of sound thought in the following passages:—

"Fair day's-wages for fair day's-work! exclaims a sarcastic man: alas, in what corner of this Planet, since Adam first awoke on it, was that ever realised? The day's-wages of John Milton's day's-work, named *Paradise Lost* and *Milton's Works*, were Ten Pounds paid by instalments, and a rather close escape from death on the gallows. Consider that: it is no rhetorical flourish; it is an authentic, altogether quiet fact,—emblematic, quietly documentary of a whole world of such, ever since human history began. Oliver Cromwell quitted his farming; undertook a Hercules' Labour and lifelong wrestle with that Lernean Hydra-coil, wide as England; and he did wrestle with it, the truest and terriblest wrestle I have heard of; and he wrestled it, and mowed and cut it down a good many stages, so that its hissing is ever since pitiful in comparison, and one can walk abroad in comparative peace from it:—and his wages, as I understand, were burial under the gallows-tree near Tyburn Turnpike, with his head on the gable of Westminster Hall, and two centuries now of mixed cursing and ridicule from all manner of men. His dust lies under the Edge-ware Road, near Tyburn Turnpike, at this hour; and his memory is—Nay, what matters what his memory is. * * * Day's-wages for day's-work? continues he: The Progress of Human Society consists even in this same. The better and better apportioning of wages to work. Give me this, you have given me all. Pay to every man accurately what he has worked for, what he has earned and done and deserved,—to this man broad lands and honours, to that man high gibbets and treadmills: what more have I to ask? Heaven's Kingdom, which we daily pray for, *has* come; God's will is done on Earth even as it is in Heaven. * * * And yet with all we have to remark, that imperfect Human Society holds itself together, and finds place under the Sun, in virtue simply of some approximation to perfection in justice being actually made and put in practice. * * * With some, almost with any, supportable approximation men are apt, perhaps too apt, to rest indolently patient, and say, It will do. Thus these poor Manchester manual workers mean only, by day's-wages for day's-work, certain coins of money adequate to keep them living;—in return for their work, such modicum of food,

clothes and fuel as will enable them to continue their work itself! They as yet clamour for no more; the rest, still inarticulate, cannot yet shape itself into a demand at all, and only lies in them as a dumb wish; perhaps only, still more inarticulate, as a dumb, altogether unconscious want. *This* is the supportable approximation they would rest patient with, That by their work they might be kept alive to work more!—*This* once grown unattainable, I think, your approximation may consider itself to have reached the insupportable stage; and may prepare, with whatever difficulty, reluctance and astonishment, for one of two things, for changing or perishing! With the millions no longer able to live, how can the *unus* keep living? It is too clear, the Nation itself is on the way to suicidal death."

On the subject of bribery here is another hard hit happily expressed:—

"A Parliament, one would say, which proclaims itself elected and eligible by bribery, tells the Nation that is governed by it a piece of singular news. Bribery: have we reflected what bribery is! Bribery means not only length of purse, which is neither qualification nor the contrary for legislating well; but it means dishonesty, and even impudent dishonesty;—brazen insensibility to lying and to making others lie. * * * Heavens, what an improvement, were there once fairly, in Downing-street, an Election-Office opened, with a Tariff of Boroughs! Such and such a population, amount of property-tax, ground-rent, extent of trade, returns two Members, returns one Member, for so much money down: Ipswich so many thousands, Nottingham so many,—as they happened, one by one, to fall into this new Downing-street Schedule A! An incalculable improvement, in comparison: for now at least you have it fairly by length of purse, and leave the dishonesty, the impudence, the unvaricacy all handsomely aside. Length of purse and desire to be a Legislator ought to get a man into Parliament, not *with*, but if possible *without* the unvaricacy, the impudence and the dishonesty! Length of purse and desire, these are, as intrinsic qualifications, correctly equal to zero; but they are not yet *less* than zero,—as the smallest addition of that latter sort will make them."

Stripped of its rhodomontade and nonsense, is there not also much pith in our next extract?—

"And truly, as we said above, is not this comparative silence of Abbot Samson as to his religion, precisely the healthiest sign of him and of it? 'The Unconscious is the alone Complete.' Abbot Samson all along a busy working man, as all men are bound to be, his religion, his worship was like his daily bread to him;—which he did not take the trouble to talk much about; which he merely ate at stated intervals, and lived and did his work upon! This is Abbot Samson's Catholicism of the Twelfth Century;—something like the *ism* of all true men in all centuries, I fancy! Alas, compared with any of the *isms* current in these poor days, what a thing! Compared with the respectablest, morbid, struggling Methodism, never so earnest; with the respectablest, ghastly, dead or galvanised Dissidentism, never so spasmodic! Methodism with its eye for ever turned on its own navel; asking itself with torturing anxiety of Hope and Fear, 'Am I right, am I wrong? Shall I be saved, shall I not be damned?'—what is this, at bottom, but a new phasis of *Egoism*, stretched out into the Infinite; not always the heavenlier for its infinitude! Brother, so soon as possible, endeavour to rise above all that. * * * But of our Dissidentisms, and galvanised Dissidentisms, of Puseyism—O Heavens, what shall we say of Puseyism, in comparison to Twelfth-Century Catholicism? * * * That certain human souls, living on this practical Earth, should think to save themselves and a ruined world by noisy theoretic demonstrations and laudations of the Church, instead of some unnoisy, unconscious, but *practical*, total, heart-and-soul demonstration of a Church: this, in the circle of revolving ages, this also was a thing we were to see. A kind of penultimate thing, precursor of very strange consummations; last thing but one? If there is no atmosphere, what will it serve a man to demonstrate the excellence of lungs? How much profitabler when you can, like Abbot Samson, breathe, and go along your way!"

Is it, or is it not strange, that these very philosophical, and very Christian reflections on

hyper-religious sensitiveness of the day, should have fallen from the pen of a layman, rather than from the mouth of some one of the thousand preachers of the word who have taken part in the Pusey controversy? As to the *penultimacy* of the thing, that, too, is matter for serious consideration; for without going the length of supposing that the existing divisions of the Church are preludes to its disruption from the State, it is enough to remember the licence and vice which succeeded to the religious extravagance of the Covenanters, in order to form a most desponding conjecture as to the morals of a no very remote generation.

An image most frequently suffices to mount Mr. Carlyle's perception of a partial truth:—

"Consider, for example, that great Hat seven-feet high, which now perambulates London Streets; which my Friend Sauerteig regarded justly as one of our English notabilities; 'the topmost point as yet,' said he, 'would it were your culminating and returning point, to which English Puffery has been observed to reach!'—The Hatter in the Strand of London, instead of making better felt-hats than another, mounts a huge lath-and-plaster Hat, seven-feet high, upon wheels; sends a man to drive it through the streets; hoping to be saved *thereby*. He has not attempted to *make* better hats, as he was appointed by the Universe to do, and as with this ingenuity of his he could very probably have done; but his whole industry is turned to *persuade* us that he has made such. To my Friend Sauerteig this poor seven-feet Hat-manufacturer, as the topstone of English Puffery, was very notable. Alas, that we natives note him little, that we view him as a thing of course, is the very burden of the misery. We take it for granted, the most rigorous of us, that all men who have made anything are expected and entitled to make the loudest possible proclamation of it; call on a discerning public to reward them for it. Every man his own trumpeter; that is, to a really alarming extent, the accepted rule. Make loudest possible proclamation of your Hat: true proclamation if that will do; if that will not do, then false proclamation, —to such an extent of falsity as will serve your purpose; as will not seem too false to be credible!—I answer, once for all, that the fact is not so. Nature requires no man to make proclamation of his doings and hat-makings; Nature forbids all men to make such."

But such truths, when brought to bear on a line of argument, too frequently lose all their value, and become falsified, by their illogical application and half-digested conclusion. In the chapter, for instance, on Frank Jocelyn's account of the election of Abbot Samson (a happy choice brought about, not, as Mr. Carlyle insinuates, by the wisdom, but by the selfish interests of his monks, and confirmed by the lucky accident of the king having no interest in annulling the election), the author takes occasion to inculcate that forms of election are of no avail against ignorance or dishonesty of the electors, a remark true enough as far as it goes,—that is, just half way; but how does he work out the idea?—

"There is in every Nation and Community a *flitest*, a wisest, bravest, best; whom could we find and make King over us, all were in very truth well; —the best that God and Nature had permitted us to make it! By what art discover him? Will the Heavens in their pity teach us no art; for our need of him is great! Ballot-boxes, Reform Bills, winning-machines: all these are good, or are not so good;—alas, brethren, how *can* these, I say, be other than inadequate, be other than failures, melancholy to behold? Dim all souls of men to the divine, the high and awful meaning of Human Worth and Truth, we shall never, by all the machinery in Birmingham, discover the True and Worthy. It is written, 'if we are ourselves valets, there shall exist no hero for us; we shall not know the hero when we see him'; —we shall take the quack for a hero; and cry, audibly through all ballot-boxes and machinery whatsoever, Thou art he; be thou King over us! * * No earthly machinery able to exclude the Quack."

Ye shall be born thralls of the Quack, and suffer under him, till your hearts are near broken, and no French Revolution or Manchester Insurrection, or partial or universal volcanic combustions and explosions, never so many, can do more than 'change the figure of your Quack.'"

Admitting, in all its extent, the proposition, that it is the spirit, and not the letter of institutions which quickens, of what avail is an idle declamation, lamenting that the men of one century are not the men of another? If a word, a wish, could alter the nature of things, could isolate the past from the future, and release our living nature from the chains of cause and effect, then there might be some application of the Abbot's tale. Unluckily, too, the premises are altogether false. The twelfth century men were ruled by false heroes, were more incapable of judging between the true and the false, and had less power of giving effect to their choice than we of the nineteenth. Would mortal man dream of recurring to the twelfth century and its "spirit" as an instructor in the art of election? Is it not matter of record, that Englishmen were driven to seek for other more elaborate means of choice, because the old form of close nomination was practically a stifler of this same spirit of the olden times, in whatever degree it then sporadically existed? Having assumed then that the spirit wanting in our times was in existence in the twelfth century (what will not a poet assume?), Mr. Carlyle thus illustrates its absence among us:—

"We English find a Poet, as brave a man as has been made for a hundred years or so anywhere under the Sun; and do we kindle bonfires, thank the gods? Not at all. We, taking due counsel of it, set the man to gauge ale-barrels in the Burgh of Dumfries; and pique ourselves on our 'patronage of genius.' Genius, Poet: do we know what these words mean? An inspired Soul once more vouchsafed us, direct from Nature's own great fire-heart, to see the Truth and speak it, and do it. * * George the Third is Defender of something we call 'the Faith' in those years; George the Third is head charioteer of the Destinies of England, to guide them through the gulf of French Revolutions, American Independencies; and Robert Burns is Gauger of ale in Dumfries. It is an Iliad in a nutshell. The physiognomy of a world now verging towards dissolution, reduced now to spasms and death-throes, lies pictured in that one fact,—which astonishes nobody, except at me for being astonished at it. The fruit of long ages of confirmed Valethood, entirely confirmed as into a Law of Nature; cloth-worship and quack-worship: entirely confirmed Valethood,—which will have to unconfirm itself again; God knows, with difficulty enough."

What deep sense and surface twaddle are here mixed together! Does the author intend that every George III. is to be deposed as often as we discover any man who can write nervous poetry to enthroned in his place? This is worse than the St. Simonian "Every man according to his capacity." Does he even mean that governments are to be overturned to make room for a real superior, if such should be discovered? that sovereigns should take places like schoolboys at an examination? Has not experience confirmed the fact, that there is not, that there cannot be, unanimity as to the main point. Who shall fix upon this imputed best? who enforce the determination? Let Mr. Carlyle ask the unfortunate Poles. The theory insinuated is a practical denial of all that is best known of human nature. It is a real retrogradation in political philosophy. Yet such no-reasoning as this is the staple nearly of the entire volume.

The notion of comparing the past to the disadvantage of the present, is a poet's notion: an edifice raised in the realms of pure fancy: an Armida's enchanted palace or an Armida's person. Any school-boy would muster fact enough to show the infinite superiority of modern

times in every particular, both moral and physical. If our ancestors had not our evils to contend with, neither had they a tithe of our benefits. Taking even to the uttermost Mr. Carlyle's discouraging views of the condition of the working classes, is that condition comparable with the unbroken series of plague, war, and famine, which, in the boasted twelfth century, desolated the isle, and made life one continued suffering? But, again, is the present stagnation of trade really a necessary ingredient in our civilization, or an accident? Are we really more destitute of will and resources for arriving at a happier condition than our ancestors? Above all, in making the attempt, are we not to deal with men as they are, to work with the materials that are before us? Is it philosophy to idly invoke an irrevocable past, and to imagine that effects can be revived in the absence of their causes? No: Mr. Carlyle's admirers would perhaps admit that such is not the truth, and they would tell us it is—poetry; we say it is childishness and absurdity.

The sum of Mr. Carlyle's argument is this, that the European world is sinking into anarchy, because men have deserted truth for appearances, and because they want faith in certain Platonisms; which defect he chooses to regard as Atheism—using the word in a far different signification from that in which it is universally understood, though what precisely he does mean by it we will not undertake to say. Thence he concludes, that the fundamental reform, the reform which must precede all others, is that each man should reform himself; should take to believing in universals, in order that he may abandon false and apparent goods, and embrace only such objects as are really worth pursuing. It never enters into his thought, that if mankind are not what they were at some other epoch of imputed excellence, they are what they are through the influence of certain antecedents. It is thus, for instance, that the steam-engine, by improving the physical resources of man, has multiplied and condensed the species faster than moral and political philosophy could follow to regulate for the new contingency. It is thus, too, that the multiplication of enjoyments, and the increased security of property and life, have abated enthusiasm, and subordinated the future to the present. We are all the creatures of society, partaking in the weaknesses as we profit by the strength of the age in which we live. Neither is it enough to foreknow and to appreciate ulterior reforms; we must desire them, feel their necessity. We must want something that reform can supply. It is, therefore, no abstraction that we seek, but a practical application of specific means to specific ends. This individual reform is but the putting salt on the bird's tail, in order to catch it: it evades all the difficulties of the case, and provides for nothing. Mr. Carlyle's bugbears "political economy, and the *laissez faire*," may be small and inefficient steps in the highway of progress; but they are steps well defined: permanent landmarks to prevent new inquirers from deviating: experiences verified, or at least open to canvass and correction, because recorded: they are not endless retracings of the same labyrinth, revolutions in the same vicious circle.

Days and Nights of Salmon Fishing in the Tweed, &c. By William Scrope, Esq. F.L.S. Murray.

Mr. Scrope's narrative style is so easy, pleasant, and life-like, that a volume from his pen is sure to be welcome; but that there may be no doubt on the subject, he always comes with a goodly company of friends, and on this occasion introduces the reader to Wilkie, Edwin and Charles

Landseer, W. Simson, and E. Cooke, who bring with them a portfolio of capital sketches.

Salmon fishing is a noble sport; but for the art and mystery of leistering, trolling, sunning, and burning the water, the reader must refer to the volume; nor shall we concern ourselves with the natural history of the salmon, or the disputes about the parr and the smolt, and other like matters, but rest content with a characteristic scene or descriptive anecdote. And here, first, a few lines on the qualities and conditions of an angler:—

"If I am ever so indiscreet as to utter a word about fishing, I am always asked, 'if it does not require a great deal of patience.' Now, these sort of interrogators are in Cimmerian darkness as to the real thing. But I tell them, that to be a first-rate salmon fisher requires such active properties as they never dreamed of in their philosophy. It demands (salmon fishing at least) strength of arm and endurance of fatigue, and a capability of walking in the sharp streams for eight or ten hours together, with perfect satisfaction to one's self; and that early in the spring season, when the clean salmon first come forward. In after life, people are considerably addicted to boats, and to go about attended like admirals; that is what we must all come to. But your real professor, who has youth on his side, should neither have boats nor boots, but be sufficient in himself. No delay, no hauling the boat up the stream, but in and out, like an otter; even like we ourselves in the time of our prime, *Fahrenheit* being below zero. We then pitched our tent under Craigover rocks, on Tweedside, and slept in it, that we might go forth, rod in hand, at five o'clock each morning to our aqueous pastime. * * I say then, and will maintain it, that a salmon fisher should be strong in the arms, or he will never be able to keep on thrashing for ten or twelve hours together with a rod eighteen or twenty feet long, with ever and anon a lusty salmon at the end of his line, pulling like a wild horse with the lasso about him. Now he is obliged to keep his arms aloft, that the line may clear the rocks,—now he must rush into the river, then back out with nimble paster, always keeping a steady and proper strain of line; and he must preserve his self-possession, 'even in the very tempest and whirlwind of the sport,' when the salmon rushes like a rocket. This is not moody work; it keeps a man alive and stirring. Patience indeed! It is indispensable to have a quick eye, and a ready hand: your fly, or its exact position, should never be lost sight of; and you should imagine every moment of the livelong day that an extraordinary large salmon is coming at it. No man can do anything properly unless he is sanguine, and his whole heart and soul is in the business. * * There is a speculation in angling that gives great zest to the sport. You may catch a moderate-sized fish, or a distinguished one; or, mayhap, a monster of such stupendous dimensions as will render your name immortal; and he may be painted, and adorn some fishing-tackle shop in London, like Colonel Thornton's pike, which threw *Newmarket* on his back as he was landing him,—a lad, says the Colonel, so called from the place of his nativity. Of course you expect the latter phenomenon every cast. You see him in your mind's eye eternally following your fly, and you are ready to strike from second to second. It is true he does not actually come, as experience teaches. But what of that? he may come in an hour—in a minute—in a moment; the thing is possible, and that is enough for an angler."

We hear, occasionally, of wild adventures and hair-breadth escapes from our fishing friends on the Namsen and in the Fiords of Norway, and on the great rivers of America, but it is possible, it appears, to meet with stirring incidents even on the Tay, when she comes flooding down from mountain and moorland. Thus, Mr. Scrope, when about to remove his quarters to the Tweed, had to descend the former river with his small boats to Perth:—

"These boats were built on Tweedside for fly fishing in small waters, and in warm weather were held for the fisherman by a man who waded in the water, lest the salmon should be scared away by the motion or appearance of the oars, or casting pole, as it might

be. Being, therefore, of a very light and diminutive construction, they were not exactly calculated to endure the buffets of large and tempestuous waters: one is not apt, however, to be over nice about such things, and accordingly I resolved to put them to the proof. Nor was an opportunity long wanting. After a night of heavy rain, the Tay, which flowed through the park of Meikleour, rose to a fearful extent. This was exactly the sort of thing to suit me; so I proposed to my fisherman, Charles Purdie, to go down the flood to Perth, a distance of about twelve miles by water. We did so; and here I insert the particulars of our voyage, as they may serve to give an idea of a Scottish spate. We were standing at the foot of the sloping lawn before my house; and as Charlie Purdie bent his regards on the frightful violence of the flood, I thought he did not half like to embark on it. In fact, he did not only disapprove of the general conduct of the river, but also of the peculiar rocky nature of the channel in which it was its pleasure to gallop along to the ocean. Moreover, he knew there was an obstruction in the river at a place called the Linn of Campsie, about four miles below the proposed starting-place, where at the arrival of his little boat he did not anticipate much pleasure. In fact, neither Charlie nor his master conceived it would be possible to pass the falls into the Linn, since no boat could do so in the ordinary state of the water without being upset, or dashed to shivers. They would see how things looked, however, on their arrival at the spot, and act accordingly. 'Now then, loosen my boat, Charlie: I will go first; and take care you do not run foul of me.' The boats being unmoored, we shot down the river in a moment, and were soon at the end of the park, where the Isla comes into the Tay. This additional volume of water increased our velocity; we guided our boats into the main currents, and away we went with the swiftness of a steam-engine. Rocks and woods opened to our view in an instant, and in an instant vanished behind us. Thus we were driven along with great fury till we came within the sound of the great falls of the Linn of Campsie: soon we descried before us the awful barrier of rocks which rose up right athwart the stream, extending from bank to bank. The waters had worn their way in some places through this barrier, and tumbled madly through the rocky gorges; down they went, thundering with stunning sound into the enormous cauldron below. Then arose the strife—the dashing of the spray—the buffeting against the banks—the swirling of the eddies, crested with large masses of foam—all was in hideous commotion. This state of things threatened to put an end to our projected voyage. To go right onwards through the centre gorge was to pass to certain destruction: as well might one hope to shoot in safety down the falls of Schaffhausen. I was prepared for all this, and was quite aware of the impediment before I began my voyage; so I did as I had made up my mind to do before I started. I pulled towards some alder trees which grew on the bank above the fall, and held my boat fast by the branches; I then told Charlie to secure his boat also with a rope, and to land and reconnoitre. We were enabled to do these things without much difficulty, as the water was in some measure arrested in its course above the fall, being slightly bayed back by the barrier of rocks. Being on terra firma, my hero looked ruefully at the torrents: one alone appeared something like being practicable; and it was one that, in the mean state of the river, was nothing but a dry channel. Whether our small craft could shoot down it without foundering or not was by no means evident to the eye, though a practised one, of the explorer. He was, however, somewhat encouraged by two fishermen who were mending their nets. They thought, they said, that we 'might possibly descend in safety, if we managed our boats well.' Charlie looked, and sighed, and looked again; the thing was evidently not in harmony with his ideas; for he could not swim himself, and he doubted whether his boat would either, when it arrived at the bottom of the fall. However, I decided that I would try the thing alone; and if it should prove a failure, the example was not, of course, to be followed. So I brought my little boat some way above the cataract, with her head up the stream, and by rowing against it let her fall by degrees stern foremost, by which means I had a clear view before me, and could therefore steer to a nicety. She went

down most agreeably, though in nearly a vertical position, but pitched upon a rock below the fall; but before any harm happened, I swung her off by inclining my body to and fro. My fisherman followed successfully; and having passed the wide-spreading Linn, the channel of the Tay became more contracted, and we resumed our former pace, shooting down the rapids like an arrow, and by occasional swift snatches of the oars avoiding the breakers around us. So we passed among the hanging woods and impending rocks of this romantic river, till we arrived at Stanley, where groups of people were assembled on the hill-top, who shouted to us with all their might, and made signs and gestures, the meaning of which I could not comprehend, but they seemed to be warning us of some impending danger: I could not catch the import of their words, as the sound was but faintly heard amidst the din of the waves. So I did not perplex myself with attending to them, but thought it wisest to trust to my own discretion, which fortunately carried the boats safely to their place of destination. I learned afterwards, that seeing our boats were mere insignificant cockle-shells borne down by the flood with great impetuosity, they were fearful that we should be carried down the mill-dam, and come in contact with the machinery. But a better fate awaited us than such a Quixotic one; and after a little rough work, in which we shipped a reasonable quantity of water, we at length approached the bleaching grounds of Perth, where the river swept swift and ample in an even channel under a wooden bank studded with villas; we then darted through the middle arch of the beautiful bridge in the town, and hauled up our boats on a wharf below it."

We will now introduce our readers to Tom Purdie and his immortal master:—

"Two or three more fish were taken amongst the stones at the tail of the cast, and the sport in the carry-wheel being now ended, the fish were stowed in the hold of the boat, the crew jumped ashore, and a right hearty appeal was made to the whiskey bottle. It was first tendered to the veteran Tom Purdie, to whom it was always observed to have a natural gravitation, but to the astonishment of all, he barely put his lips to the quigh, and passed it to his nephew. 'Why, uncle mon, what the devil's come ower ye? I never kent ye refuse a drappie afore, no not sin I war a callant; I canna thole to see ye gang that gait.' 'Why, I'll tell ye what it is, Charlie. I got a repreef from Sir Walter for being fou the ither nicht.' 'Eh, uncle, how was that?' 'Why,' says Sir Walter, 'Tom,' says he, 'I sent for ye on Monday, and ye were not at hame at eight o'clock; I doubt ye were fou, Tom.' 'I'll joust tell ye the hale truth,' says I, 'I gied round by the men at work at Rymer's Glen, and came in by Tarfield; then I went to Darnick, and had a glass o' whiskey wi' Sandy Trummel at Susy's, and I war joust coming awa when Rob steppit in, and cried for half a mutchkin. I was na for takkin mair, but the glasses were filled, and I did not like to be beat wi' them, so I tuk mine.' 'And is that all you had, Tom?' said Sir Walter. 'Aye, indeed was it,' said I; 'but, Heaven have a care o' me, I never was the war of it, till I was ganging up by Jenny Mercer's by Coat's Green; and when I cam up by Kerr side I wanted to see Maister Laidlaw, but I thought I durst na gang in; and how I got hame I dinna ken, for I never mindet it na mair; but our wife war in a terrible bad key the morning, because I wair sair wanted last nicht.' 'Well,' said the maister, 'ye mun never do the like again, Tom.' We then ganged to the woods, and thinned the trees; and I laboured with the axe at thae that Sir Walter marked. 'Now Tom,' says he, 'you will go home with me, for you have been working very hard, and a glass of whiskey will do you good;' and he cawed to Nicholson to bring Tom a glass o' Glenlivet. I tuk it doon; and, mon, if ye'd found it, it beat a' the whiskey I ever tasted in my life. 'Well, Tom,' said Sir Walter, 'how do ye feel afore it? Do ye think another glass will do ye any harm?' I said naething, but I thought I wad like anither, and Nicholson poured out ain, and I tuk it. Then the maister said, 'Tom, do ye feel ony thing the war o' it?' 'Nau, nau,' said I, 'but it's terrible powerfu', and three times as strang as ony whiskey I ever drank in my life.' 'Then, Tom,' says Sir Walter, 'never tell me that three glasses o' Susy's whiskey will fill ye fou, when ye have drank twa of mine, which you say is

three times as strong, and you feel all the better for it." Hey, mon, I never was so taken by the face in a my life! I didna ken where to luk. The deil faw me if ever he coteh me so again."

There are numberless like anecdotes, capital sketches of character, and pleasant descriptions in the volume.

Dictionary of Greek and Roman Biography and Mythology. Parts I. and II. Edited by W. Smith, L.L.D. Taylor & Walton.

A silent and desirable revolution is taking place in the English courses of Classical Education: hitherto the writers of Greece and Rome have been studied on a principle that placed language above thought, and rendered words more important than ideas. We have known young men who could scan the most difficult metres of Aristophanes, and quote all the grammatical subtleties devised to explain his anomalies of construction, who had not the slightest knowledge of the great course of political events on which his dramas were founded; who never suspected that the poet discussed important constitutional questions; and who were unacquainted with the history of the persons assailed, and consequently incapable of appreciating the point of the satire. We have known those who had learned Cicero's speeches almost by rote, but were yet ignorant of the persons named, the laws quoted, and the constitution of the courts or assemblies addressed; they were minutely accurate in longs and shorts, never tripped over a false quantity, could compete with Alvarez himself in the niceties of prosody, and surpass Schrevelius in quibbling derivations; but of the political import and historic value of what they read, they were just as ignorant as if it was written in an unknown tongue. It was, and to some extent it is, the bane of education in our classical schools, that so much time and labour are bestowed on constructing the scaffolding, as to prevent nine out of every ten from proceeding to erect the main edifice.

We hailed with pleasure the publication of the 'Dictionary of Greek and Roman Antiquities' by the conductors of the present work; it was a revelation of the mind of the classic ages to youthful students; it brought their legislation to be tested by the standards of moral principle and public utility, pointing out where law had been successfully applied to the benefit of the community, and where perversity of institution had been the pregnant source of national wrong. With still greater success it developed the nature of the taste which it is the proper end of classical studies to inspire: its text and its illustrations equally developed the great object of ancient art—of classic poetry, painting, sculpture, and music—which was to perfectionate the ideal of physical beauty. We have since had frequent occasion to consult the work, and have found every article to which we referred, not only accurate in the information it conveyed, but intellectually valuable in the investigations it suggested.

We saw the announcement of the present work with sincere pleasure. Lempriere's Classical Dictionary, a work scarcely abreast with the knowledge of its own day,—was far, very far behind the requisites for a book of reference in the present state of classical literature: diffusive on matters to be found in ordinary abridgments of history, it was meagre and jejune on those points where young students most wanted information. Dymock's variation of Lempriere, published as an original work, was still worse; the alterations were principally remarkable for a union of dogmatism with ignorance. Anthon's edition of Lempriere, originally published in America, and edited here by Mr. Barker, was a clumsy enlargement of an inconvenient edifice,

without plan, order, or system. Anthon crammed into his volume everything which appeared to suit his subject, to be found in the works of English and continental scholars, without regard to proportion or consistency; his English editor, "*regis ad exemplar*," superadded the stores of an ample common-place book, and their joint production is a specimen of complete disorganization. How it happened that the proprietors of Lempriere never engaged some English scholars to re-cast the work, is one of those mysteries of trade which we cannot unravel. We do not regret their neglect, since it has led to the production of the work before us. It is obviously impossible to enter into minute criticism of a lexicon or dictionary; we may, however, notice one or two general matters in which this Classical Dictionary is superior to its predecessors. It keeps the mythology of Greece distinct from that of Rome;—not always indeed as perfectly as we could wish—but sufficiently so to prevent that confusion between the poetical creed of the Greeks and the political religion of the Romans, which has so long been a pregnant source of error and perplexity to youthful students. The article *Aphrodite*, which by the way is misplaced by a couple of pages, may be noticed as an example of learning employed to bring out the poetic beauty of a legend, instead of burying it beneath a mass of pedantic dissertation. In the article on Apollo we think that too much weight is attached to Müller's opinion that this deity was purely spiritual; it would be singular indeed if the Dorians, the least refined of the Hellenic races, should have anticipated all the rest in the worship of intellectual instead of elementary divinities.

We have been greatly pleased with the historical articles on the successors of Alexander, and the dynasties of the Seleucide, and the Ptolemies. The history of the Macedonian, Syrian, and Egyptian kingdoms should be regarded as the connecting link between the histories of Greece and Rome; Alexander and his generals levelled the roads over which the Cæsars marched to universal empire, and the omission of their career as the precursors of Roman dominion, is one of the greatest defects in the course of historical study, which is still prevalent in our ordinary schools.

Among the novelties of the book may be noticed the introduction of Byzantine History. Gibbon is almost the only authority accessible to English students for the annals of the important events between the reigns of the first and last Constantine, on the shores of the Bosphorus; in too many instances he has rendered but scant justice to the Greeks of the Lower Empire, whilst on the other hand Lebeau has so overrated them that his eulogies have all the effect of a libel. The Byzantine articles in this Dictionary are written in a spirit of careful scrutiny, and show that the authors are masters of the subject. We think, however, that the literary attainments of Anna Comnena are rather underrated; the parody of her style which Sir Walter Scott has inserted in his Count Robert of Paris, is a mere exaggeration of her defects, which are indeed sufficiently prominent; but if any candid reader examines her account of the campaigns of the Normans, under the Guiscards in Western Greece, he will be convinced that the princess had no small pretensions to the character of an acute and graphic historian.

Ancient art has received a due but not a disproportionate share of attention in this Classical Dictionary. Not only have we the lives of the most eminent sculptors, painters, and architects of the classic ages, but lists of such of their works as are still extant, and of the places in which they are preserved. The illustrations are taken from coins and medals; independent of their

historical value, they exhibit the state and progress of the numismatic art among the ancients.

There is no need of pronouncing any formal eulogium on this new Classical Dictionary, for in fact it is the only one with any pretensions to the name in our language; and as such it must form part of the library of every student who desires to become acquainted with the mind of antiquity.

'The Cyclops' of Euripides: a Satyric Drama. By a Member of the University of Oxford. Oxford, Graham.

THIS translation is one of those trifles which call for no vast expense of criticism. The elegant amusement of learned leisure, occupying little time in the execution, and scarcely half an hour in the perusal, if it gives the reader a tolerable notion of the original, it fulfils all that need be expected from it. Pedantry, indeed, may apply its microscope to discover, phrase by phrase, with how much or how little verbal accuracy the task has been performed; but a careless *non est tanti* is all that the *Athenæum* can afford to bestow upon the point. 'The Cyclops' of Euripides has little to recommend it to general curiosity, beyond its being the sole example left us of a great tragic author's powers in the lighter department of his art; for unlike 'The Pleaders' of Racine, it makes no very striking claim on the reader for a hearty laugh. Indeed, there is some difficulty in assigning the poem to the genus Comedy. The term applied to it by the translator, of "a satyric drama," is more germane if not very precise. The most accurate view we can offer, is to state that the generic relation of the *Odyssey* (from which the story is taken) to the *Iliad*, nearly represents the relation of 'The Cyclops' to the regular tragedy; whose forms it takes, pretty much after the fashion of our burlesque travesties *minus* the broad fun. There is little in it approaching to the coarse jesting and biting personalities of Aristophanes, the prevailing type of the comedy of Athens. It is, therefore, probable, that the piece was written without any eye to representation. As to the plot, the well-known story of the ninth book of the *Odyssey* forms its subject, to which Euripides merely adds the supposition, that Silenus and the Satyrs (the captives of the monster) are inhabitants of the country, with whom Ulysses communicates, and from whom he learns what he has to expect from Polypheme. Silenus thus prologizes:—

O Bacchus! Bacchus! Who shall tell the pains
That I have suffer'd, all for love of thee?—
Ay, and still suffer; though no longer young,
As when the vengeful Juno fired thy brain,
And drove thee from the tender mountain Nymphs
Who nurs'd thee;—or as when Heaven's war grew hot,
And I stood by thee in the deathful strife,
And slew Enceladus, thy giant foe,
Driving my spear right through the recreant's shield—
I slew him;—none but I:—No dream was that:
No;—for I show'd to thy dear self the spoils.
But now a draught more bitter am I doom'd
For thee to drink;—Juno again the cause;
Whose hate commission'd that fierce Tuscan band
Of lawless pirates to lay hold on thee,
And of thy goodly form make merchandise
To distant lands. The rumour reach'd mine ears:
Forthwith I put to sea with my brave sons,
To search thee out, and rescue our lov'd lord.
Onward we sped our course; I at the stern,
The steady steersman o'er the briny deep,
That foam'd and whiten'd 'neath the bending oars
Pled for thy sake by my own sturdy limbs.
Onward we row'd; till off Malea's point
A fierce North-Easter caught us, and impell'd,
Though hard we strove against it, on this coast,
At Etna's rugged foot; a helpless prey
For Neptune's one-eyed brood, who here inhabit
Dark sunless caves, with throats athirst for blood.
Of these the fiercest, Polypheme by name,
We call our Master, and his flocks we tend,
Our *Eveo Bacchus!* heard, alas! no more.
Far on the mountain's steep my youthful troop
Keep herd, the bleating sheep and goats their care.
While I, as suits my years, keep house at home;
My task to fill the troughs, and sweep the floors,
And at the Cyclops' board to minister.
Now then, Silenus, hie thee to thy work;
This iron shovel must the threshold clear,

Least speck or spot be on his pavement seen,
To greet our giant-shepherd when he comes.
Ha! Now I see my gentle boys approach,
Tending their charge;—and now, even now, ye frisk
The dear Sycnids*, but no more as when,
In frantic thiasus†, ye forced the doors
Of fair Althen; while the dance and song,
And jocund pipe, led on the merry God,
And all around was rout and revelry.

Then follows a chorus of the Satyrs, to whom enters Ulysses with his companions, and then the story proceeds, very closely following the version of the *Odyssey*. Ulysses begs assistance, in the way of provender, from Silenus, offering him wine in exchange, as a bribe, to rob his master.

Uly. There—wet thy lips with that.

Sil. O glorious sight!

Uly. Trust you your eyes alone?

Sil. Nay, nay;—though seldom errs my nostril's eye.

Uly. Taste then; and prove thy nose is in the right.

Sil. (Drinks) Bahal!—Already could I skip and dance:

Aha! Aha!—

Uly. Methinks it gurgled down thy throttle bravely.

Sil. Ay; I can feel it at my finger tips.

Uly. Nor this alone we'll give, but coin besides.

Sil. Talk not of coin; or coin me only this.

Uly. Now for thy master's milk;—the cheese,—the meat.

Sil. All shall be thine.—My master! Who is he?

His flocks, and herds, and stores,—I'll give thee all,

Then take from off some rock the lover's leap,

Once I've enough to make me mad and blind.

But who's the madman?—He who loves not drink.

And who can love, or toy with her he loves,

Save his own drinks, and dances,—to his mad?

Here sleep my cares and troubles.—Thus I kiss

Thee, darling cup!—Yet once again I kiss thee,—So—

(Drinks.)

As for the Cyclops, what care I for him?

I bid the one-eyed Homicide go hang.

In a subsequent dialogue with the Satyrs, Euripides spares not his accustomed gibe at the fair sex:—

Chorus. You took, you tell us, Ilium and fair Helen.

Uly. Ay; and laid low old Priam's royal house.

Cho. Now answer truly;—when you had the jade,

Laid you not on her wanton shoulders rarely?

Then found some likely husband to her mind?

For, rumour says, she yokes with many mates;—

The smiling traitress!—on whose smitten eye

Struck Paris,—shining in his broider'd vest,

With Asian hose around his taper thighs,

His dainty neck hung with a glittering chain.

Aha! right soon forgot she her good man,

And left him for the gallant.—What a sex!

And what a baggage she! Yet like the rest;—

Dear tender creatures!—Would I had them all.

Silenus, so bold behind Polypheme's back, is a mere flatterer and coward before his face, urging him to eat Ulysses' "both neck and crop."

And don't forget his tongue. That morsel, sure,

Shall give thee words enough.

Polypheme has now taken the wine, the fatal

Greek present, that is to be, like the Trojan

horse, mere destruction to the receiver; and

now hear him in his drink:—

Ho, Yo! Ho, Yo! Methinks I'm merry:—

A little drunk. Nay,—very—very:

Like some good ship,

In gallant trim,

That scarce can swim,

Hurrah! hip, hip,—

Full to the brim,—

My load aboard,

My cargo stored:—

Ho! I am drunk, and merry—very—

And yet another bumper bring,

Ere to my friends I go;

And on the greensward let me sing,

My merry mates! Ho, Yo!

When the moment for slaying the monster arrives, the Satyrs, as might be expected of the

pot valiant, shrink from their part.

Uly. In with you then, and seize the glowing brand.

Cho. Nay; first your generalship must name

A leader,—whom to follow;—

Some daring one,—athirst for fame,—

That fearful orb to hollow.

Scenich. 1. Too far without the cave I stand,

To hope to lend a helping hand;

2. And I have sprain'd my ankle-joint;

3. The like mischance has happ'd to mine;

4. Stumbling against that rocky point;

5. Though how, I cannot well divine.

4. And see, this cinder in my eye;

I cannot budge.

Al. Nor I—nor I.

Uly. What! All disabled! ere a step you've stirr'd—

Cowards! I value not such help as yours.

They do not, however, refuse a song, to encourage Ulysses and his own followers to the

good work.

* A favourite dante of the Satyrs.

† A band of revelling Bacchanals.

Io! Io!—There goes it!—So—

In with it,—In,—

My gallant fellow!

Stick it well in, that slender pin;—

What though he bellow?—

About it goes, 'twixt head and nose;—

Twist it, twirl it, work it round,

Nail him firmly to the ground;—

Ply the bloody butcher's trade,—

Well he knows it!—'twas his own;—

Give it him, right in the head;—

Heed not cry, nor groan, nor moan.

There crack'd a nerve!

See ye don't swerve—

A sinew there!

See ye don't spare—

In with it there,—just there,—I tell ye;

Mark the bursting bubbling Jelly;

How it sputters, in gory gutters!

That's well. What a yell!

The monster sent!

At last he's spent;

And victory! victory! is our cry:—

Now let him up, to wall his misery.

This may be thought rather too grotesque, but it is a close copy of Homer.*

The English reader is now in possession of a

sufficient sample, to judge both of the work

itself and of the talent of the translator; and so

we take our leave.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

On the Educational Clauses in the Bill now before

the House of Commons, for regulating the Employ-

ment of Factory Children, by W. J. Fox.—Education

in most countries is now acknowledged to be a right

on the part of the child and a duty on that of the

parent, which the State is bound to enforce. In

England, the State claims to be the protector of

the child, if it be subjected to physical injury; but

of mental or moral neglect or injury, from which,

not only the child, but society itself, must suffer,

it takes no notice, unless the child has property

sufficient to pay for its protection as a ward in

Chancery. We confess, that we are so far English

in our prejudices, that we do not altogether like the

meddling interference of the State; but the evil of

ignorance is so great, as shown in the late Reports—

the state into which the people are fast sinking so

feared,—that we were prepared to submit, thankfully,

to almost any law that promised even a partial

remedy. The Bill here brought under consideration

is, we admit, open to very serious objections, and

we trust they will be temperately considered

while there is yet time; but great as are the objec-

tions, we say any measure is better than indifference.

Let the State acknowledge its duty to do something,

and that is the lever with which we may work out

improvement and extend the system. The amend-

ments suggested by Mr. Fox are,—First, for the

trustees proposed by the Bill, to substitute trustees

elected by the rate-payers; and to limit their control

over the master, in the teaching and management of

the school, to the enforcement of regulations sanc-

tioned by the Committee of Council on Education.

Secondly, to reserve a certain portion of the school-

time for direct religious instruction, to be given by

such religious teachers as are approved by the

parent. Thirdly, to allow the privileges of schools

constituted under the act to any existing schools

which are efficiently conducted, and will allow equal

opportunities of religious instruction to all the pupils,

of whatever denomination. Fourthly, to make the

certificate required by the child's employer, a certifi-

cate of attainment, and not of attendance; the attain-

ment being graduated according to the child's age;

e. g. reading fluently in the Gospels, at nine years of

age; reading and writing at ten; knowledge of the

first four rules of arithmetic at eleven, &c. Some

intelligent proprietors of factories and other large

establishments, amongst whom Mr. Cobden deserves

honourable mention, have for some time acted on this

principle of requiring, not school attendance, but

actual attainment."

* Ὁς του ἐν ὀφθαλμῷ πυρηνικὰ μολὼν ἰδοντες

Διεικομέν, τὸν δ' αἶμα περιβέρε θερμὸν ἰόντα.

Ὁς δ' ὄτ' ἀνὴρ χαλκεὺς περικυρ μέγαν, ἢ σκι-

παρόν

Εἰν ὑπὲρ ψυχρῷ βαπτει μεγάλα ἱαχόντα

Φαρμασσών,

Ὁς του εἰς ὀφθαλμὸς—κ.τ.λ.

Historical Records of the first Madras European Regiment, by a Staff Officer.—This work is in reality a military history of the Madras Presidency, for the regiment to which it relates acted a very distinguished part in all the wars of Southern India, from the days of Lawrence and Clive to those of Hislop and Cotton. There is nothing in the volume possessing sufficient interest to demand further notice than to state that it appears to have been carefully compiled from official documents.

Legends, Lyrics, and other Poems, by B. Simmons.—Of these poems the larger number have previously appeared in *Blackwood's Magazine*. The author has many poetic qualities—fancy and freedom of hand,—that *daren doe* which puts no restraint upon its own imaginings, and a command of melody for their utterance. It might be worth while, had we space, or a more profitable occasion, to inquire why, with these, and some other, elements of poetic success of a high order, the result is so unsatisfactory. But we will merely remark, that the legends are the best portion of this volume; because the author affects a picturesque style—an almost pageantry of language—which lends itself well to the romantic legend or heroic ballad, but overcharges the simplicity, and disturbs the tenderness, of the lyric. Our author's besetting fault is exaggeration, both in feature and colouring. If the poems had been new to the public, we might have given some examples at once of their merits and defects; but our readers may take the following, as a graceful example of the author's lyric, when most free from his favourite poetic vice:—

On the Portrait of a Lady.

BY CHALON.

"Throw back the barriers!—Marshal—see

That, high above that shout,

Herald and trumpet fearlessly

Ring our defiance out!

Long as this arm can lift a lance—

This hand a charger rein,

Supreme o'er all your Lady's glance,

Where Heav'n throngs, or pennons dance,

Devoted We maintain!

And knightly spur be backed from heel,

Reversed his blazon be!

Who, Bright One, in the combat's peal,

Strikes feeble stroke for thee!

Back with the barriers!—undismayed

Fling forth our challenge wide!

God, and one lustrous look to aid,

The battle We abide!"

Such, in the Tourney's noble days,

Had haply been the guise

Of errant Minstrel's duteous praise,

Beneath Her gracious smile, whose gaze

Before us shadowed lies—

But, woe for Beauty and for Bard,

Those days are gone—the glory-starred!

For Roland's horn of dreadful tone

We hear the Knightsbridge bagles blown,

And the sole Fields of Cloth of Gold

Are by voracious Robins sold

Nothing through earth or ocean's range

But suffers dull disastrous change,—

Save Woman's radiant looks, that beam

As ages back they beamed,

When Sydney wove his starry dream,

And Surrey's falchion gleamed.

O blessed boon!—though vanished long

Those stately times of sword and song!—

Still blooms—though low the shaft is laid—

The loved Acanthus undecayed.

We drink deep faith, from yonder face,

That, though the sterner powers

Of Chivalry are gone—its grace

And gladness still are ours.

Poetry for the Million, edited by Peter Priggin, with notes by the Sub-editor. Second series.—So posterous was the attitude assumed by the M.P. against whom this squib is directed, on the occasion which furnished its subject, that he is certainly fortunate in not having drawn upon himself any rougher handling than has yet been his fate. He might fairly have expected missiles from "a whole college of crackers." But the incident has not gravity sufficient to carry the weight of a continuous publication like this. Mrs. Norton hit the parliamentary poet hardest, making just about as much of the matter as it deserved, saying "the right thing in the right place." In a word, the matter is a *trifle*, which did not require all this *whipping*. It is right, however, that we should add, that were all these things not so, the bad taste of this particular performance would destroy its efficacy and demand the lash more than the thing it lashes. They can have no character as moral teachers who apply the *lex talionis* in morals; and he has a low estimate indeed of the dignity and resources of satire, who inoculates himself for the per-

formance of its functions with a portion of the virus, whose presence provoked the satire itself.

Reeds Shaken with the Wind, by the Rev. R. S. Hawker.—Some time ago, we made a favourable report of a little volume of poems from the pen of this author, entitled 'Ecclesias'—and offered a specimen or two of the manner in which this Cornish vicar made his pleasant muse a helper in his spiritual ministrations. The present volume is, also, devoted to the service of the altar, and is in the same mild spirit as the former:—but we could not illustrate our favourable opinion of the author so pleasantly from its pages, as his earlier publication enabled us to do.

The only known MS. of Shakespeare's Plays, by J. O. Halliwell, Esq.—We scarcely need inform our readers that the MS. here referred to was not written by Shakespeare. It is merely a copy of the 'Merry Wives of Windsor,' presumed to have been transcribed for some private representation, about the time of the Commonwealth. The variations are not of such importance as, in our opinion, to justify the publication.

Celebrated Crimes, by Alexander Dumas.—So much of the interest of romance attaches to these narratives, as to leave it doubtful how far the higher interest of historical truth has been sacrificed to artistic effects.

The Norwood Schools, by the Rev. J. Browne.—An interesting little volume, which may be read with pleasure by all, and profit by the Guardians of Unions.

List of New Books.—Village Discourses, Doctrinal, Practical, and Experimental, by Rev. F. O. Smith, B.A., 8vo. 6s. cl.—Black's Road and Railway Travelling Map of Scotland, in cloth case, 4s. 6d. sewed.—The Holy Bible, containing the Old and New Testaments, with General Introduction and Notes, by B. Boothroyd, D.D., new edit. royal 8vo. 24s. cl.—A Course of Practical Geometry for Mechanics, as Introduction to every branch of Mathematical Drawing, by W. Pense, 8vo. 1s. 6d. cl.—The Orator, or Student's Assistant in Elocution, by William Roberts, Professor of Elocution, &c., 12mo. 4s. roan lettered.—Home Discipline, or Thoughts on the Origin and Exercise of Domestic Authority, by Adelaide A. Kilvert, 2nd edit. 12mo. 4s. 6d. cl.—How shall we conform to the Liturgy of the Church? by C. K. Robertson, 8vo. 7s. 6d. cl.—The Dream of Life, Lays of the English Church, and other Poems, by Moultrie, 12mo. 7s. cl.—The Jesuits, their Principles and Acts, by E. Dalton, 18mo. 3s. cl.—The Parent's High Commission, 8vo. 4s. 6d. cl.—A Companion for the Sick Room, 12mo. 3s. cl. swd.—Sermons on a Future State of Happiness, by Rev. E. Thompson, 12mo. 6s. 6d. cl.—Obituary Tables, by G. Spratt, 4th edit. 4to. cl. 18s. plain, 28s. coloured.—A Compendium of Toxicology, by G. Spratt, 12mo. 5s. cl.—Ashwell on Diseases of Women, Part II., 'Organic Diseases,' 8vo. 8s. swd.—The System of Nature, by Edward Newman, 2nd edit. 8vo. 10s. cl.—Ransom's Hebrew Grammar, 8vo. 6s. cl.—Chapman's Homer's Iliad, with Flaxman's Designs, 2 vols. post 8vo. 20s. cl.—History of the Sandwich Islands, 8vo. 4s. 6d. cl.—Foreign Library, Part VII., 'Austria,' by J. G. Kohl, Part I., 8vo. swd. 5s.—Letters from the Virgin Islands, illustrating Life and Manners in the West Indies, post 8vo. 9s. 6d. cl.—Hand-Book of Northern Germany, 4th edit. 12mo. 12s. cl.—Lady Sale's Journal, Seventh Thousand, post 8vo. 12s. cl.—Excursions along the Banks of the Rhine, by Victor Hugo, post 8vo. 10s. 6d. cl.—The History of a Ship, from her Cradle to her Grave, by Uncle Ben, squares, 4s. 6d. cl.—Domestic Verses, by Delta, 12mo. 5s. cl.—Lester's Condition and Fate of England, 2nd edit. 2 vols. 12mo. 12s. cl.—Millington's Treatise on Civil Engineering, 8vo. 21s. cl.—The Fortunes of Hector O'Halloran, by W. H. Maxwell, 8vo. 14s. cl.—History of the Davalos Family, post 8vo. 5s. cl.—Life and Correspondence of John, Lord Teignmouth, 2 vols. 8vo. 24s. cl.—A Treatise on Astronomy, displaying the Arithmetical Architecture of the Solar System, by E. Henderson, 2nd edit. 12mo. 5s. 6d. cl.—Seven Lectures on Meteorology, by Luke Howard, Esq., 2nd edit. 8vo. 4s. 6d. cl.—Days at the Factories, Series I., 'London,' by G. Dodd, crown 8vo. 10s. cl.—Pictorial History of England, Vol. III. of 'George III.,' roy. 8vo. 2s. cl.—Hogarth Moralized, by Rev. Dr. Trusler, new edit. by Major, post 8vo. 14s. cloth, 18s. hf-bd. morocco.—Walton and Cotton's Angler, new edit. by Major, post 8vo. 12s. half-morocco.—Walton's Lives of Donne, Wotton, Hooker, &c. 8vo. 10s. 6d. cloth, 14s. hf-morocco.—Political Philosophy, by Lord Brougham, Part II., 'Aristocracy and Aristocracy,' 8vo. 10s. cl.—The Wild Garland, or Prose and Verse Illustrations of British Wild Flowers, &c., by S. Waring, 8vo. 4s. 6d. cl.—Reform your Walking, the true Theory of the Rhenish or Spanish Waltz, by an Amateur, 8vo. 3s. 6d. cl. swd.—A Catalogue of Works in all Departments of English Literature, corrected to March, 1833, 8vo. 2s. 6d. cl.—History of the Persian Wars of Herodotus, with English Notes, by C. W. Stoddart, D.D., 2nd edit. 2 vols. post 8vo. 10s. cl.—A Practical Treatise on the Diseases of the Testis, by T. B. Curling, 8vo. 18s. cl.—Sketches of the Lives and Characters of the leading Reformers of the 16th Century, by Edward Taggart, 8vo. 5s. cl.—British Moths and their Transformations, Vol. I. 4to., with 56 coloured plates, by Humphreys, and Descriptions by J. O. Westwood, Esq., 2 vols. 8vo. 12s. hf-morocco.—The Progress of the Nation, by G. R. Porter, sections 2 to 6, 'Consumption, Accumulation, Colonies,' &c., 12mo. 10s. cl.—Austria, its Literary, Scientific, and Medical Institutions, by G. W. Wilde, post 8vo. 9s. 6d. cl.—Progressive Education, or Considerations on the Course of Life, Vol. III., 'Observations on the Life of Woman,' 12mo. 7s. 6d. cloth.—The Ladies' Hand-Book of Plain Needlework, 3rd edit. 32mo. 1s. swd.

EXPERIMENTS AND OBSERVATIONS ON MÖSER'S DISCOVERY,

Proving the effect is neither due to Light nor Heat.

BY HORATIO PRATER.

It is proposed now to demonstrate, that the radiation discovered by Möser is not invisible light, as he supposes, nor heat, as has since been supposed. For, first, where is the evidence that bodies absorb light? Some few, certainly, have been shown so to do; but surely not the metals, &c. &c. which exhibit the greatest facility in receiving and giving the impressions discovered by Möser. It seems, *a priori*, more probable that the radiation in question should consist of heat (which we know exists in all matter) than of light. Accordingly, Mr. Hunt has written an elaborate paper in favour of the supposition that such radiation consists of heat. In the course of this essay, however, it will appear, that neither of these suppositions is correct.

1. *With regard to the nature of the substances that produce spectra*.—Every substance I have tried has produced its spectrum when left on a polished copper plate. Coins, whether of gold, silver, or copper, platinum, nickel, brass, pieces of glass, wafers (red, blue, and white), peppermint or rose drops, whalebone, talc, gum, a horse-hair ring, lava from Vesuvius, Indian rubber (but slight), and sealing-wax. This last, left ten days, gave a whitish grey permanent spectrum, clearer than any of the others, though the wax and plate were both kept dry as usual. The impression on a small brass seal (a P) was very obvious when the plate was breathed on. The seal had been left ten days.

2. *Effect of dissimilar metals*.—It has been asserted, that when a gold or silver coin is placed on a copper plate, the effect is greater than when a copper coin, &c. is placed on the same metal. When heat is used, this position is true, as will be shown hereafter; but when the plates and coins are both kept cold, (exposed to external air, for instance, in March,) a farthing, on two different occasions, in an hour, left as good a spectral image as a sovereign,—I thought, a better one.

It was, however, remarkable, when a heat of 160° was applied to this plate, that the spectrum of the copper soon became invisible, while that of the gold was apparently not at all diminished. This experiment was repeated twice with the same result. I likewise found that, though the spectrum of the copper was to appearance, at first, as good as that of gold or silver, yet that it began to disappear much sooner, after a few breathings on the plate, than did the spectrum produced by gold or silver. On the whole, therefore, it seems right to admit that the effect is greater when dissimilar metals are used.

3. *Effect of unequal heat on the plate and coins*.—It has also been asserted, that when the copper coin is heated, and the metal plate of copper kept very cool, that the effect is increased. I have, however, not been able to satisfy myself of the truth of this statement. A penny and a farthing, heated to between 130° and 160°, and laid on a cold copper plate half an hour, did not appear to leave even so good a spectrum as two of the same coins left to cool for half an hour outside the window, by the side of the plate itself, before being placed on the plate. All the coins were placed on the plate at the same time, and left the same time. Neither could I perceive any difference when one sovereign was heated and the other not, both being placed on the same copper plate.

4. *Effect of heat generally*.—In order to ascertain whether heat hastens the impression, the following experiments were made:—1. A bright half-sovereign, a bright halfpenny, and a dull one, were heated to

* By a permanent spectrum is always meant, in this essay, a spectrum that remains when the substances or coins are removed—not a spectrum which cannot be rubbed off by gentle friction, for all the above permanent spectra are yet soon effaced by friction.

† It left a permanent spectrum of its margin. Coins left a similar time do the same; the part where they have remained retaining its polish. The permanent spectrum then, in such cases, plainly depends on the substances preserving the plate from oxidation by contact or proximity. I add proximity, because a half-crown or penny resting on a fourpenny piece, placed on the plate, likewise leaves its permanent spectrum. The free circulation of the air is impeded here in consequence of the extreme proximity, just as it is by actual contact. Hence the oxidation being less in all such cases than in the parts external to the coins, we have of necessity the permanent spectra.

about 150° on a polished copper plate. The half sovereign left a permanent impression; and both the halfpenny left spectra visible only by breathing. It was obvious from this experiment and others, that heat increases the effect where contact is permitted, since the impression is permanent. Accordingly it was deemed right to try if heat has this effect when the coin is at a distance from the copper plate.

I put a silver fourpenny piece on the plate, and on the fourpenny piece I put a penny. I found that when these remained only twenty-four hours, that no spectral image of the penny was produced; but on remaining forty-eight hours one was apparent. In this last case, the lettering of the fourpenny piece became almost visible when breathed upon; but not being breathed upon, no mark of it at all was perceptible. The penny piece, however, left its mark without being breathed upon—an annular bright mark, which was not rendered more or less distinct by being breathed on. The spectrum of the fourpenny piece was alone brought into view by this. The place where this had laid was exactly as bright as that covered by the penny. In fact, the copper plate seemed preserved from oxidation by the contact and proximity of these coins. Thus, then, it appeared to require forty-eight hours for a spectrum of the penny piece to be produced—the spectrum of a coin not in contact. The same experiment being made at a heat of 160°, no spectrum of the penny appeared after one hour, though the fourpenny piece had left a strong impression.

Ditto, continued for five hours, a spectrum of the penny was just visible, and only so when the plate was held in a particular position with regard to light.

A half-crown piece being laid on a half-sovereign, and the same heat continued five hours on the same plate, the half-sovereign left a still better impression than the fourpenny piece above mentioned, and the half-crown had also made a permanent spectrum very visible.

A farthing, which had rested the same time on the plate, left no permanent spectrum, but only one slightly visible by breathing. Even when pressed upon by two pence, and left eight hours, it left only a barely visible permanent spectrum: so a brass medal. These spectra being rendered far more visible by breathing, could hardly be considered permanent spectra.

These experiments show:—1st. That heat much increases the rapidity of the radiation, even when the object is not in direct contact; and 2ndly. That it takes place much more energetically from gold and silver than from copper (a copper plate being used). They also show that a permanent spectrum is to be considered only as a higher degree of that produced or rendered apparent by breathing.

A sovereign, two hours on a very thin lamina of talc, at the above heat, gave no spectrum; talc alone gave its spectrum; nor did a halfpenny, eight hours on the same at the same heat; nor a shilling (new) on a thin piece of glass, the shilling being under a halfpenny. The talc and glass in these cases alone gave a spectrum; the talc a better and more permanent one than the glass. I should have said the talc was on copper-plate.

The spectrum of the penny, in the experiment lately detailed, is equally visible when the experiment is made on glass; but polished metals seem to show it the best.

When glass is used, there is, after from twenty-four to forty-eight hours, a slight deposition of dust,

‡ Although the mark is permanent in such cases, still it very easily rubs off, even when gold has remained five hours on heated copper plates; and no spectral figure is left when the part is breathed on, after the plate has been well rubbed. As this is the case, such permanent mark is not to be considered as a different effect, but only as a higher degree of the same effect as that caused by mere imposition without heat. I found all the things mentioned in Section I. gave a permanent spectrum if left eleven days, but only one rendered visible by breathing, being left but a few hours.

§ However, after six or eight days, as this began to tarnish, the spectrum of the fourpenny piece became visible without breathing on it. Yet nothing had been done, except that the plate had been heated to about 150° once or twice for other experiments.

¶ When the plate was rubbed pretty strongly with chamois leather only, the spectra of the half sovereign and fourpenny piece were soon effaced; while those of the half-crown and penny (not having been in contact with the plate) remained.

¶ A sovereign on a silver fourpenny piece two hours, gave only a very feeble permanent spectrum; the silver leaving, of course, a well marked spectrum.

&c. around the parts which are not covered by the penny, and thus a round mark (permanent spectrum) is visible on removing the penny, even before breathing at all; still on rubbing it off *nothing is visible*, and breathing on it again, the spectrum of the penny appears, as well as of the fourpenny piece, proving that dust adheres much more strongly than we should have supposed, or perhaps better—leaves its mark behind with greater pertinacity.

That this is the true explanation of the appearance of a spectrum, when the coin is not in direct contact with glass, was to me rendered clear by another experiment, in which a half-crown was left on one sixpence, and a penny on another, on a clean glass plate covered over with paper, and kept in a closet for ninety-six hours; yet on examination, neither a permanent spectrum, nor even an evanescent one by breathing, was perceptible either of the half-crown or the penny; the sixpences alone had left spectra (which, however, were only visible by breathing), that under the half-crown being the clearest. Yet the penny and half-crown were in the best condition for giving spectra, for the surfaces of both were tarnished, and that of the copper purposely so.

This result induced me to try the same with a copper plate, and I found that when a bright half-crown (having been well boiled in water and then polished) was placed on a fourpenny piece, similarly treated, and left forty-eight hours covered in the closet as above, that the half-crown left no spectrum, even evanescent. Neither did a purposely tarnished penny placed on another fourpenny piece, and left the same time.

5. *As regards the distance from the plate at which images may be taken.*—A silver fourpenny piece is about the one-twentieth of an inch in thickness, and at this distance we have seen silver, copper, and of course gold, give a spectral image on a copper plate. But on putting a half-crown on two sixpences and a half-franc piece, making the distance from the plate more than the one-tenth of an inch, no spectrum of the half-crown was made, although the experiment was continued for twelve successive days and nights. Neither was any made by removing the half-franc piece (thus making the distance only one-tenth of an inch), and continuing heat of 160° or so for five hours.

A sovereign fixed at three-quarters of an inch, and a small brass medal at somewhat less than half an inch, from a polished copper plate, and continued in such position for seventeen days and nights in a little closed deal box, gave not the least vestiges of spectra; neither did a fourpenny piece left at one-fifth of an inch, nor a card plate (engraved) left the one-tenth of an inch, for eleven days. The copper plate had remained perfectly polished in both experiments; and this is worthy of remark, as showing that in confined air copper does not oxidate perceptibly. Another plate left in the same room was completely tarnished in five or six days.

A fourpenny piece, about the one-twentieth of an inch, under a silver plate for eleven days, gave scarcely a perceptible spectrum; though a farthing, on which the plate had rested, gave a good spectrum, but not a permanent one, (i. e. breathing was required to show it).

A fourpenny piece is about the one-twentieth of an inch in thickness, and this seems the greatest distance an image can be taken by the above plan. But even at this distance I have not succeeded, if the half-crown laid on the fourpenny piece is perfectly polished, and all external dust, &c. carefully excluded by the box just mentioned—(see Sec. 8, on the comparative polish of metals).

6. *As regards impressions on glass.*—We have already observed that heat does not seem to increase the effect of metal coins on glass. Neither did long contact; for a fourpenny piece, left a week on a piece of looking-glass, only left the usual spectrum, no figure being visible. The same remark applies to large printed letters. At least, some paper with these, after remaining pressed two or three days without giving any impression, was then heated for five hours, so pressed, at about 160°, but no impression was made. On another occasion, print and writing were left a week on a glass mirror without leaving an impression. When, however, thinner paper and larger letters were used, and heat and pressure applied as above for four or five hours, these letters were plainly visible; but, as appeared to me, far more easily erased than were

the spectra of coins on copper plates.* A slight touch of the finger, for instance, erased the letters in question. They were produced in this case in consequence, no doubt, of the thinner paper being moister than that first used.

Heat does not appear to increase the effect on glass. A fourpenny piece under a shilling for three hours, at 160°, left no spectrum.

On putting a penny on a sovereign, and leaving them for three hours and a half at the above heat, I thought the spectrum of the penny slightly visible; but as the image is never so apparent as on polished metal, I shall not venture a decided opinion on this point as regards glass.

A polished, boiled, and then well dried half-crown gave as good a spectrum on a glass plate in twenty-four hours, as did a dirty half-crown; but I thought the spectrum of the former disappeared sooner by breathing. On a far thinner glass plate, a bright, boiled fourpenny piece, left the same time, gave no spectrum at all.

7. *Polished surfaces not appearing capable of receiving the impressions.*—These exceptions from the general rule I have found to be talc, and, among the metals tried, steel to a certain extent, platinum, and gold.

Whether heated or not with the coins on it, I have found no spectrum produced on talc, except in one instance, where a tarnished half-sovereign had been pressed some days by a half pound; and even here the mere margin of the coin was barely perceptible.†

On steel, after remaining twenty-four hours, I found a very slight evanescent spectrum produced by a small piece of brass, and on one occasion by a half sovereign very much tarnished; but as heat did not appear to increase or hasten the effect, we may consider steel almost unsuceptible. The spectra just named disappeared entirely after breathing twice; and no permanent spectrum was produced, though the piece of brass above mentioned was placed even on the top bar of a grate, and of course kept very hot, for two or three hours.

Under the head 'Thinness of the plates,' experiments, showing the incapability of platinum to receive images, are mentioned.

The same remark applies also to gold. I kept a shilling and a farthing, on two different occasions, for twenty-four hours or longer on a well polished plate of gold, yet they barely left a marginal spectrum; and this spectrum, as in the case of steel, disappeared entirely on breathing on it twice. As the gold used was not free from the usual alloy of copper, possibly this was the cause of its receiving even the very slight spectrum it did. However this be, these experiments seem almost sufficient to establish the important general principle—viz. that the less metals are oxidizable by exposure to the air, the less is their susceptibility to receive spectra.

8. *As regards comparative polish in metals.*—1. A new sovereign, a new half-crown, and new farthing (all well polished) were kept on a bright copper plate, at 160° or above, on two successive occasions, for four or five hours. The gold and silver left only very slight permanent traces of their margin, the copper left none at all, but its spectrum, when the plate was breathed on, became, I thought, even rather more evident than the spectra of the gold and silver, these being likewise breathed on. 2. A tarnished sovereign and a tarnished half-crown being laid on the same copper plate, and kept at the same heat only three-quarters of an hour, a permanent, and far more apparent, spectrum was produced, than in the former case; the whole area, where the half-crown had laid, was covered with a whitish cloud, and the impression dimly sketched. 3. By selecting a halfpenny very much tarnished, and letting it remain five hours on a bright copper plate, heated to 160° or so, and subsequently for thirty-six hours in the cool, a permanent spectrum was produced, in which all the lettering of the coin was beautifully visible; yet here was copper

* On a copper plate also this thin paper (not being dried well first) gave a permanent and very visible spectrum, the lettering being clearer than on glass: not due to oxidation, for on rubbing it off, the surface of the copper was left polished—i. e. oxidation in the usual sense of the term; for there, no doubt, was some very slight chemical action, as large printed letters on perfectly well dried paper were not taken off on a copper plate, the heat at 160° being applied for five hours; or, on another occasion, the print remaining a week on the plate, and pressure being used.

† Talc, like platinum, is not easily acted on by acid.

on copper. But as I found this impression to go off completely at a heat far below what the impression did, at exp. 5, below, the general principle, that silver gives a stronger impression, remains. 4. A well polished new sovereign and a tarnished sixpence being laid on a bright silver plate for four hours, and kept at 160°, the sovereign had left no spectrum, but the sixpence had left a permanent one, in which almost all the lettering appeared, so plainly was it visible. 5. A perfectly polished half-crown was laid on a pretty well polished sixpence, and a purposely tarnished one on a purposely tarnished sixpence, and put on the same plate with the halfpenny (exp. 3, above), heated five hours and left thirty-six hours afterwards. The lettering, &c. of each sixpence was visible, but far more of the most tarnished; and also this was the case with that of the most tarnished half-crown, as regarded its spectrum. That of the polished was scarcely visible. But the lettering of neither half-crown was visible, though they had remained so long and been heated. This experiment also shows how much the effect is strengthened by actual contact. A similar experiment was made in the closed deal box (mentioned in Section 5). The copper plate was laid upon a polished and boiled fourpenny piece, and this on a half-crown similarly prepared; after ninety-six hours, no spectrum whatever of the half-crown was visible, by breathing or otherwise, but the fourpenny-piece, in actual contact, had left the usual spectrum. The plate had remained perfectly polished. All these experiments show that the dissimilarity of metals is not of such importance as has been conceived: they show the difference wanted to produce the effect is a difference in brightness or oxidation, i. e. as far as a permanent and good impression, showing the lettering, &c. is concerned; for I find when left on the plate half an hour or so, tarnished or polished metals give equally good spectra. But in this case the spectrum is only made apparent by breathing, and of course shows nothing of the lettering, &c. However, even in this case, the spectrum of the tarnished sovereign disappeared less soon by breathing on it than did that of the polished one; so in reality the spectrum of the former may be said to have been the most perfect.

The same remark applies to a glass plate (see Section 6, as regards glass, &c.).

9. *Which metal receives images fastest, copper or silver?*—My experiments lead me to say copper, whether heat be applied or not. When the same degree of heat was applied, I found a sovereign produced a good permanent spectrum (impression) on a bright copper plate, although only an evanescent one (one seen only when the plate is breathed on) was produced on an equally well polished silver plate, placed at the same time at the same heat. When heat was not applied I found the copper received an evanescent spectrum first.

10. *As regards the effect of interposed substances.*—As every substance tried left a spectrum, I did not much expect that the influence would permeate any lamina, even of the thinnest description. Accordingly, when a sovereign or shilling was left twenty-four or forty-eight hours on a piece of stiff, though very thin, paper, it gave no spectrum, but the mark of the paper was alone visible. The experiment was repeated, half the coin resting on the copper plate and half on the paper: and although it remained a fortnight in this position, the half only in contact with the plate was visibly breathing on the paper, leaving its own spectral image just as if no coin had rested on it at all.

The same experiment was repeated with the thinnest possible layers of talc, gum, cork, and whalebone, glass, plane and concave; with the same result. Each substance left its spectrum, the part where the coin rested on such layer not being at all distinguishable. The spectral image of the square piece of talc was perfect to the minutest outline, and left its straight mark under the sixpence equally well as at other points. These experiments render it clear that the effect is not due to latent light, for otherwise how could it happen that a coin does not leave a spectral image when left on transparent substances, glass or talc even a fortnight? They also show it does not

‡ With the glass the experiment was only continued forty-eight hours; with the paper, talc, and cork a fortnight, silver coin being used; with the whalebone and gum, ten days, gold coin being used.

depend on heat (at least alone), for a heat of 160° soon passed through thin glass and talc, and I found it impossible to keep my finger on glass or talc so placed. Yet we have seen above that even gold left two hours on talc so heated left no spectrum, permanent or temporary. So great is the effect of interposed substances, that even a slight tarnish on the metal exerts a very obvious effect. One shilling was left twenty-four hours on a polished part of the plate, and another on a part of the same slightly tarnished (but yet sufficiently bright to see oneself perfectly). A very slight image only was left in the last case, that entirely disappeared when breathed on twice, while that on the polished part of the plate remained, after being breathed on twelve or fourteen times.

A sovereign left twenty-four hours or above, tarnished, gave scarcely a perceptible spectrum, and a sixpence none at all. On such a surface a sovereign was left on two different occasions, under a penny, for three hours, at a heat of 160°, and barely left a permanent spectrum of its outer margin; while on a well polished surface, at same heat, the outline of the impression also would have been left as a permanent spectrum in an hour or two.

11. Mass.—Mr. Hunt considers, that mass exercises an influence and increases the effect. In my experiments, however, I could not detect this. A farthing on a copper plate gave as good a spectrum as a penny, and when heated to 160° the farthing gave far the best, though the penny had a halfpenny laid on it. A fourpenny piece too gave as good a spectrum as a half-crown, pressed by another above it, in the same time, the contact being equally good in each case. The contact in these cases was made as equal as possible with the copper plate.

12. Does the thinness of the plate exert an influence? A farthing (in two experiments) pressed by twelve or fourteen pounds weight, on a polished piece of platinum foil, in thirty hours left no spectrum at all; neither did it on a fourpenny-piece, or a sovereign, or half-sovereign, when kept three or four hours at 160° under the same weight. I found a spectrum could be made on nearly equally thin zinc plates (zinc foil), by leaving a sixpence on it an hour or two. Zinc, not being elastic, allows the pressure to be equal. The particular chemical nature of platinum has, however, much to do with this effect; for I found that when a fourpenny-piece, or another small brass metal object was left on a highly polished lamina of steel, heated to 160° or not—a spectrum was scarcely made. That elasticity and consequent imperfect contact is not the sole cause of the incapacity of thin lamina of platinum and steel, for receiving spectral images was to me rendered probable by observing that coins, placed on a thick copper plate, seldom were in perfectly close contact, yet gave good spectra. In order to come to a more definite conclusion on this point, I got a lamina of bright copper, even thinner, and as elastic as the platinum lamina above mentioned. Gold or silver coins left twenty-four hours on this, gave a spectrum scarcely visible; but on leaving a half-sovereign for two or three hours on it, exposed to heat of 160°, as above, and pressed down by exactly the same weight, the half-sovereign left a permanent spectrum very well marked indeed.

The result of this experiment obviously shows, that although thinness and elasticity may have some little effect, the principal cause for the formation of the spectrum is the peculiar chemical nature of the metal, and that a spectrum cannot be produced on a non-oxidizable metal, such as platinum. Bright silver and copper plates are well known to tarnish by exposure to the atmosphere (the former, perhaps, rather by forming a sulphuret than an oxide), but no matter how. I have also found that spectra could be formed on tin and zinc plates, both of which, of course, are oxidizable. So on copper coated with mercury, the mercury in such case no doubt readily tarnishing (see section 7, Polished surfaces not receiving spectra). Having decided that the effect in question is due neither to light nor heat, to what cause, it may be asked, is it to be ascribed?

Conclusions.—1stly, As brightness of the plate is indispensable, and with brightness must exist an increased tendency to tarnish, or enter into chemical combination;

2ndly, as the plate must be of an oxidizable metal, and judging from the experiments with silver and copper the more oxidizable the better; 3rdly, As the more perfectly the coins are cleaned and dried* the less the effect, and as a dry perspiration (so to call it) must exist in a greater or less degree on all coins, since they pass through so many hands, and as perspiration is slightly acid; 4thly, as even with clean coins the effect, by actual contact must be admitted, but still is greater when there is a difference in the nature of the metal; and 5thly, as when the metals are not in contact (being removed only the one-twentieth of an inch apart), no action or spectrum is evident, if the free circulation of air, and the connexion with dust be prevented—taking all these and minor considerations into account, we come to the conclusion that the effect in question is dependent on a *chemico-mechanical* action, or what Berzelius has called *catalytic* action. No doubt it may be urged against this view, that the action takes place when the coins and plate are both heated, and hence quite dry. But this is no solid objection, for the adage "Corpora non agunt nisi sint soluta" is not true, as hundreds of examples in chemistry show. The very fact of heat itself increasing the effect is all in favour of a chemico-mechanical view; for heat increases the tendency of copper to oxygenation, and tends also to volatilize any feeble acid matter on the coins. But again, if it be said the spectrum rubs off, even when permanent and clearly defined (as we have shown), and leaves a polished surface under it,—this we admit; but still this surface has suffered an almost imperceptible degree of oxygenation; for so slowly does this effect take place, that it is only visible when much advanced, as will be evident to any person who watches the gradual tarnishing of copper plates. Møser's discovery shows that very slight chemical action is often going on, which has been previously overlooked.

The chief difficulty that occurs to the above view is, that the effect takes place, to a slight extent, on glass; but in all my numerous experiments I have found that the effect is much less on glass than on well polished copper; for in no case has a permanent spectrum been made on glass, even by the longest contact. It will also be remembered that I found no effect whatever produced on talc. Now the talc scratches easily, glass of course does not; but talc is probably less soluble in acids than glass; at least in my trials it did not seem at all acted on either by nitric, muriatic, or sulphuric. To be sure, you perceive no effect of these on glass, but it does not seem impossible but that some very slight effect takes place, and that the alkali of the glass is very feebly acted on, as glass is a compound body. Contact, at all events, may be presumed to have an influence on the affinities of one of its elements, whether there be even the slightest degree of decomposition or not. Now this influence is the catalytic influence; for it has been shown above, that without actual contact, and when all dust is kept off, neither silver nor copper, even at the one-twentieth of an inch from the glass plate, produces any effect, though kept there ninety-six hours. (See section 4, of heat generally, end.) In consequence of this slight alteration in affinity, the parts of glass which have been in contact some time with coins or other substances, condenses the breath differently from those parts which have not: hence the spectrum.

The effect of glass, supposing it not susceptible of a gradual change by the action of air similar to oxidation, is rather in favour of the spectrum depending on a mechanical than a chemical action. I have in consequence ascribed the effect to a mechanico-chemical action, or a catalytic action, meaning thereby an action so slightly chemical as, in the present state of the science, to be scarcely appreciable. The attraction

* Moisture much increases the effect. Thus, when one surface of a shilling was rubbed over with ink, and such surface put on the copper plate and heated to 150°, a mark much more difficult to be effaced was left than when this degree of heat was applied without moisture.

† This is equally true, as will be remembered, with regard to glass plates.

‡ The general result of all the above experiments shows this; and of course an alteration of affinity from contact, is far more probable when metals are different than when the same: though if one be dirty, this makes it approach the nature of a different metal.

§ A permanent spectrum has been proved (see experiments) to be but a higher degree of an evanescent one.

¶ In coming to this conclusion I have not forgotten another difficulty, viz. why a well polished and boiled copper coin produces a spectrum on copper plate. The effect, even

tion of glass and oxidizable metallic plates for dust, &c. is very great; and is perhaps dependent on the same cause as their attraction for oxygen. Whether or not, I feel pretty well convinced, after a laborious investigation of the discovery in question, that it is not of that wonderful character that Møser and others have supposed; nor calculated to alter our ideas of vision or of the nature of light. On the contrary, I think with Pizeau (a short notice only of whose memoir I have seen) that no effect of any consequence is produced where organic matters are carefully removed by boiling water and polishing; for such is perhaps the philosopher's opinion just named, and in as far as our opinions agree, he has the priority. Begun by a purely catalytic action, it is only continued and developed in any marvellous degree when those circumstances are present that permit it to assume a more strictly chemical character.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Sakhara, April 18.

The morning of the 27th of March opened, as it not unfrequently does, perfectly cloudless, and with less than usual of the white streak of vapour over the river; but before mid-day a violent wind from the east so filled the air with sand, that the villages between us and the river became obscured. The appearance of this phenomenon is that of a London fog, deprived, however, of the yellow infusion. The wind was so violent that the sand came in at all the openings of the tent, to the east, and the finer particles sifted through the pores of the canvas, and covered everything. One would have supposed that the river and the cultivated plain would have protected us, situated as we are on the west side of the cultivation. The thermometer got up to 100°; and in the afternoon, as the wind changed to south, it rose three degrees higher. After sunset the wind ceased, and the rest of the phenomena gradually subsided. All of us felt a kind of oppression on the chest, myself a positive difficulty of breathing. It was one of those fifty days of wind called Q'hramseen, which are distributed over this and the two following months. The next day the sun rose beautifully clear—but no dew, no freshness in the atmosphere. The day was comparatively cold, the thermometer not reaching 80 degrees.

A detachment, in which I was included, made an excursion to Dabour and to the Pyramids. The excavations which have been made near the Mastaba Faraoum have disclosed tombs built of brick, and arched, immediately under the sand—a thing never dreamt of in the places where they have been found. From this discovery, there is reason to believe that there are tombs where we hitherto supposed the ground to have been untouched; hillocks, the work of Dame Nature, covered with flints (Egyptian pebbles), are now found to be ruined brick buildings. How the circumstance of their being covered with pebbles is to be explained, I do not know: violent as are the winds of the desert, they are not capable of that. It is very remarkable that you seldom pick up a pebble on all sides rounded; most commonly you find pieces broken out in a way and in a part of the pebble where it could not happen from a blow. This occurs, too, always on the upper part of it. I cannot help thinking that the sun is the principal agent. How account for a nearly round smooth-edged depression in the centre of a large pebble, no appearance of blow, and this occurring on the upper surface? How account for all these pebbles being in concentric layers of colour? I think the old notion of these stones being rounded by the action of water must be abandoned, seeing that the outer crust is concentric with other crusts of various colours.

We have had several days of unusual excitement. On Tuesday I accompanied Doctor Lepsius to Cairo, to be presented to the Prince Albrecht. The whole day was spent in preparations for the journey, and on the road. The Prince declared his intention to visit our encampment; thence proceeded to Sakhara, where we were to prepare a lunch. This arranged, we had another day's hard work, for we had to make the needful purchases in Cairo, and yet to arrive in time for dinner at Sakhara, a distance of at least twenty miles; and

when continued an hour or two at a heat of 160°, is very slight, and I found it to disappear entirely by twice breathing on the plate. Contact then, of the same metal slowly modifies chemical properties: such on the present view is the inference to be drawn from this fact.

no railroad, no coachroad, but a track sometimes through a palm-grove, sometimes through a corn-field, and sometimes over a newly ploughed field, to avoid a still more disagreeable road across a barren track of hills and fissures, in which the legs of our donkeys and my camel might be easily broken. I will give you the details of our little journey as they occurred. Our party consisted of —, —, Mohammed, and another Mohammed, a great tall Nubian, who ran by the side of the donkeys, each donkey accompanied by its driver, and myself mounted on a camel. Imagine what a sensation such a party would make trotting down Regent Street. Having arrived at Old Cairo, opposite to the end of the Island of Rhondah, where is situated the Nilometer, we stopped at a *café* near the river, while we sent one of the donkey-boys to buy bread for themselves, and another to buy some grass (clover) to regale our animals, and Mohammed to buy mats for the Prince. In the meantime we sat at the door of the *café*, smoking the Shesha and drinking a cup of Mocha—our camel, donkeys and drivers obstructing, in some degree, the road in front of the *café*. When all this was done, Mohammed undertook to embark our donkeys and their drivers in a boat (our caravan being increased by another man and donkey, which carried the mats) and we ourselves took possession of another boat, in which we soon arrived on the western bank. I omit the description of the piazza before the *café*, the varied scene of boats, horses, camels, and the different qualities of people, both as to nation and profession, before us, as we drank our coffee on the mustiba of the *café*—a scene full of amusement and reflection.

Imagine us on the western side of the Nile, each leading his animal up the irregular bank, which is now of considerable height, till arrived at a convenient place for mounting. From thence we proceeded along the embankment, the same on which we formerly travelled, when on one side was a lake and on the other the flowing stream; now, in place of the lake, are fields of ripe corn, and in that of the river, cucumber and melon plantations which descend to the water's edge. Thus far our road was tolerably easy, till we turned off to dodge between the palm trees, and afterwards crossed ploughed fields and narrow tracks between clover and corn. We reached our encampment a little after sunset.

I forgot to say that we have seen a comet every night for the last month. It has now disappeared.

On arrival we dined and went to bed. — had brought with him his saddle-bags full of costly articles of dress, which he had bought in Cairo, besides the usual paraphernalia of a gentleman's toilet. These treasures he had placed in his tent, at the head of his bed, on which he had fallen asleep, the lamp yet burning. About midnight we were disturbed by the report of a pistol, and a cry, in Arabic, of Stop thief! from the other end of the encampment. It did not succeed, and poor — had lost his rich saddle-bags and other articles from his tent. In the morning it appeared that our guardians had been sleeping when they should have been watching, and as it was further hinted that so skilful a robbery could not have been executed without the participation of said guardians, they were consequently sent to prison, and four others chosen from our band of excavators. Our tents were, in the meantime, put in order for the reception of the Prince; the new mats were laid down in our dining tent; a piece of cotton cloth disguised the naked deal planks of that in which we take our frugal meals; our tin cups were changed for transparent glass, and a bottle of hock adorned each extremity of the table. At two o'clock the Prince, Dr. Lepsius, and attendants, were discovered in the plain, by the man who had been posted on a hill to give us timely notice, that we might put on our Sunday attire, which was all accomplished before the party had arrived, being mounted on very ordinary donkeys. We were all introduced so soon as the party reached the edge of the little plain occupied by our tents. The Prince is tall, thin, young, and blond; his dress admirably suited to the climate,—a Turkish silk shirt, over which a blue striped European one, a brown holland jacket, and loose, thin, blue trowsers. The attendants were entirely dressed in brown canvas, and carried each a double-barrelled gun, sword, and pistols. They disappeared till after we had taken coffee, ate some bread and dates, and drank a glass of wine and water, when the Prince called for one to

bring his pipe. The Prince spoke to — and me in English, laughed a good deal at our misfortunes of the preceding night, described some circumstances of his journey in Nubia, and his dinner with the Pasha, handed his note-book to — to have all our names written in it in hieroglyphics, and then mounted his donkey to visit some of the curiosities in the neighbourhood. By his desire I accompanied the procession with my camel, which he mounted after leaving the uneven ground of the *campo santo* (if I may so call it), and had arrived in the plain on his way to visit Memphis, when we again changed our locomotives—he to continue his journey to the Nile, I to return to the camp. On Saturday our usual occupations proceeded. —, however, went to Cairo, taking with him one of the servants, to consult with the Prussian Consul as to the best means of recovering the stolen property. Everything proceeded in the encampment on Sunday as usual: the flag was unfurled, prayers were read, nothing was wanting but the evening quantum of milk, which, through some neglect, did not arrive. The only consequence was, that those who could not drink tea without it, drank water.

Now, imagine us fast asleep,—our tents occupying the whole space of table land; behind us an irregular wall of rock, in which are the excavations (ancient tombs) that serve us for magazines and kitchen. At two o'clock in the morning, two Arabs approached our table land, whose presence disturbed the guardians, and whose subsequent flight into the plain induced the two guardians and two of our best and most active servants to follow; and while thus engaged, twenty or thirty men (for the accounts vary) advanced, threw down two of the tents, in one of which three of our party were sleeping, accompanying the action with howling and the discharge of pistols, which awoke me and others, who came out half dressed, with such arms as we could in the hurry seize on. I found myself standing with a sword in one hand and a dagger in the other on the ruins of one of the tents, before I was thoroughly awake, one of our companions disentangling his gun from the ropes of the tent, and another dragging what things the Arabs had left from the ruins. We adjourned to the kitchen, collected our arms, and attended the wounded, among whom was one of our party, very slightly, by a knife, in the elbow, which he got while contending with an Arab for a bundle of clothes. One of our servants who had pursued the Arabs into the plain, returned with a severe wound in the head, besides several bruises from a stick on the legs; one of our guardians was also wounded on the head and hands. Having stopped the bleeding by covering the wounds with ground coffee, and put the wounded to bed in one of the excavations leading from our kitchen, we armed ourselves, and two of us, with Francis and one of the guardians, set off, to follow the footsteps of the Arabs, whom we traced to a village north of us, picked up sundry articles of dress, which in their flight they had dropped, and then returned to our camp. By this time the sun had risen, but not shown his face above the opposite mountains. We took a cup of coffee, and agreed to send to Cairo to inform Dr. Lepsius. In the course of the morning I went to the village of Sakham, obtained twelve men as guards for the ensuing night, and spent the rest of the day in making further preparations. In the evening arrived the Doctor and — and all the servants. We disposed of our increased force, and went to bed, each prepared in case of attack. On Wednesday morning arrived the sub-governor of this district, to prepare for his superior, who came about two o'clock. The sheikhs of the neighbouring villages were already in attendance, and after some questions they, and several others, suspected to have a knowledge of the affair, were bastinadoed, in order to extract further information, but all in vain. The villages are to be made to pay our loss, which amounts to about 110*l*. During the process of beating the women who had collected in the plain were screaming; and indeed the whole ceremony was of a nature which I do not desire to see repeated. To-day, our encampment is all noise and confusion; my tent infested with Turkish soldiers and Arab chiefs; when the business will end I cannot tell.

Soon after mid-day, the whole of the money was brought to Dr. Lepsius, and he made a present of a quarter of the whole sum to the sheikh of Sakham.

The parent locusts have disappeared, but hosts of little black ones remain, the size of flies, that congregate, like their fathers, on the sunny side of the sandhills.

OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

AMONG the more notable occurrences, not merely of the week, but of the times, is the Rev. Sydney Smith's petition to Congress against the repudiating states of the Union, which has appeared in the *Morning Chronicle*. It is among the best specimens of this clever man's very peculiar mode of thinking and expression, at once eloquent and argumentative,—the model of what a manifesto should be. It is simple in statement, cogent in reasoning, uncompromising in principle, and dignified in language. That it is the emanation of one mind, is no just cause for depreciation; for such, in truth, is every document the most officially authoritative; and it is not the less the voice of all civilized Europe in protest against the most gigantic fraud of the age in which we live. As becomes the position and character of the petitioner, he subordinates the pecuniary injury to the moral and political wrong inflicted by the repudiators. He laments over the dissipated hopes of the best friends of the American experiment in self-government, and over the terrible advantage given to the enemies of free and representative institutions throughout the world. To us, there is something imposing in this individual wrestling with a nation's depravity; and we doubt not, that among the citizens of the United States there are numbers to appreciate the value of such a man's opinion, embodying, as it does, the reason and the probity of all mankind; and who will be far more willing to listen to the voice of one tried friend, than to yield to the *brutum fulmen* of a secretary's office, though backed with all the artillery of "a world in arms."

It is more than probable that the last American packet has brought letters and an explanation from Mrs. Sigourney respecting the publication of Mrs. Southey's letter; meanwhile we publish the following statement, which has appeared in an American paper, and evidently proceeds from Mrs. Sigourney: "Having contemplated visiting Dr. Southey at Keswick, Mrs. Sigourney, on leaving England, wrote to Mrs. Southey, regretting that the accounts she had received of Dr. Southey's extreme illness had deprived her of the pleasure of seeing him. In reply to this, Mrs. Southey wrote, under date of April 3, 1841, as follows:—

"Permit me thus familiarly to address one whose name, at least, has long been familiar to me, and toward whom, having seen some specimens of her beautiful poetry, I cannot feel as toward a stranger. And thus closing.—'It will please me to think that I shall be held in kindly remembrance, in a far off land by one whose genius was held in honour by him who was (humanly speaking) my *light of life*.'"

"With regard to the alteration of Mrs. Southey's letter, or 'the interpolation of phrases implying intimacy and ejaculations of pathos,' it is enough to say that there is not the slightest foundation for the charge. We are able to state this confidently, after a careful examination and comparison of the manuscript with the printed page.

"The only remaining charge is that of having published Mrs. Southey's letter without authority. We cannot answer this better than by stating the simple fact, that since the appearance of Mrs. Sigourney's book, she has received a cordial letter from Mrs. Southey, in which she (Mrs. Southey) fully approves, to use her own words, of 'the publication of those few words of mine, to which you have done too much honour—both to them and their writer.'"

We collect from this, that the statement which charged Mrs. Sigourney, a stranger, with having written to Mrs. Southey to request her correspondence, and with having forthwith published Mrs. Southey's answer, with all its melancholy details, is substantially true; that "since the appearance of Mrs. Sigourney's book," she has received "a cordial letter" from Mrs. Southey, in which that lady "fully approves" of the publication; that the charge of interpolating the published letter with phrases and ejaculations is denied, and indeed amounted to little, as the published letter proved. Now the original charges against Mrs. Sigourney were put forward on the avowed authority of Mrs. Southey herself; and

if it can be shown that Mrs. Southey has since written to Mrs. Sigourney a "cordial letter," in which we will not say she *fully approves*, but in which she did not honestly, distinctly, and unequivocally *disapprove* of the publication, then there has been a great deal of mystification, double-dealing, and duplicity. This fact established, all other objections, so far as Mrs. Southey is concerned, fall to the ground at once, as miserable trifling; and we shall not hesitate to say, that Mrs. Sigourney has been most unworthily treated. Our objection, however, to the publication of such a letter, is strengthened a hundred-fold the moment it can be proved that Mrs. Southey was a consenting party, whether after or before publication.

A meeting took place on Wednesday last, Mr. Dickens in the chair, for the purpose of forming an 'Association for the Protection of Literature.' As the meeting was held for the purpose of preliminary discussion, so many suggestions were thrown out, that we were unable to obtain a correct copy of the Resolutions finally agreed to; but it is a marking feature of the spirit which animated the meeting, and an honourable consequence of the discussions which have of late years taken place with reference to this subject, that the first resolution recognized specifically "the rights of literary property in all nations;" from which, of course, it follows that the literary property of all nations is entitled to protection, and will be protected, so far as practicable, by all members of the Association. Indeed, the only discussion of importance related to a Resolution which went so far as to declare that the members would not knowingly either edit, print, or publish any work in which copyright exists, whether such copyright be vested in a *foreigner* or an Englishman, without the consent in writing of the author or publisher, or sell a copy of any pirated edition of such work; and the justice of this Resolution was fully admitted; but it was shown by Messrs. Longman, Murray, Spottiswoode, and others, that there were practical difficulties which made it inexpedient to adopt so stringent a principle as a fundamental law of the Association. It was therefore resolved that, for the present at least, the aim of the Association should be to carry into effect the provisions of the recent Act in relation to the infringement of copyright, and the introduction into England and her possessions abroad of pirated copies of English works.

In connexion with this subject, we may observe, that our attention has been recently called to two maps drawn and printed under the direction of Major Jervis, for a work on Asia, which he is preparing to publish by subscription. As these maps are both copies, the one of Capt. T. Dickinson's survey of Bombay, the other of Meyendorff's map of the route from Orenburg to Bokhara, they have intrinsically little claim to notice, but one of them seems to trench on a principle, the violation of which we cannot allow to pass in silence. The days are approaching, we hope, when the whole race of compilers and copiers who live on the learning and ingenuity of others will be totally suppressed. Major Jervis has produced these maps we presume in order to show the subscribers to his work that he is actually engaged on it; but we cannot so easily explain his choice of subject. Did he copy Meyendorff's or Lapie's map of Central Asia, because he thought that recent events gave interest to that portion of the globe? But that map was confined to a special object, viz. the illustration of the route from the Russian frontiers to Bokhara; and, with reference to the route to Khiva, it is useless, for this route lies on the western side of the Sea of Aral, which is not included in Lapie's map. Seventeen years have elapsed since the publication of Meyendorff's map, and within that time a great quantity of information has been collected by the Russians; so that we are now much better acquainted with the shores of the Sea of Aral. The maps accompanying the works of Levchine and Zimmerman show much improvement in this respect. Still further we think it a just ground of complaint that Major Jervis has not taken the trouble to free his map from the peculiarities of French orthography; thus we have Besh for Besh, Tach for Tash, &c. Nay, he has not even changed the meridians reckoned from the observatory at Paris. He has copied the French map without taking the least pains to adapt it to an English work. This being the case, are we not justified in asking, whether the requisite number of copies of the original map might not have been pro-

cured from Paris for much less than the cost of copying? Have we not here an example of that invasion of foreign copyright, which, however tolerated by law, ought certainly to be discountenanced by society?

We regret to announce the death, on the 10th inst., of Mr. Thomas, of Oxford Street, well known, both at home and abroad, as the possessor of the finest private cabinet of coins in this country. It is hard to say whether the fact of its having been left to a tradesman to form so princely a collection, is one which reflects more honour on the middle classes, or more discredit on our wealthy aristocracy. We have not heard what directions Mr. Thomas has left as to the disposal of his collection; but presume that the whole will come to the hammer. We were going to give utterance to the natural wish, that such a collection might pass unbroken to some public and permanent depository; but we forbear, believing that, on the whole, the occasional dispersion of large and valuable cabinets contributes more to the advancement of numismatic science than their preservation. For instance, the magnificent collection bequeathed by Dr. Hunter to the Glasgow Museum is, for all useful purposes, as effectually buried there, as it would be at the bottom of the Thames; perhaps, indeed, even more effectually, for there would be a greater probability of its being brought to light from the latter concealment than from the former.

The late Sir Bethel Codrington's collection, removed from Dodington Park, made almost as great a stir last week at Messrs. Christie & Manson's as Birnam Forest removed to Dunsinane did, long of yore, at Macbeth's Castle. We cannot divine what magic charm rendered this two days' sale of intolerable and tolerable daubs (some very few good pictures excepted) so bewitching; but our brethren dilettanti thronged to it like a tribe of Red Men, with sanguine faces and simple enthusiasm, to Mr. Catlin's wigwag atelier in the Backwoods, and seemed no less gratified by all they beheld than were those savage amateurs by their ruddle and lamplack portraits. How many an auction-advertisement resembles the mysterious *Duc d'ne* of our friend Jaques, minus the classic feature—"a Greek invocation to call fools into a circle"! Select we have granted the Dodington Park collection,—a select assortment of bad originals and palpable copies, there being just one precious jewel amidst the vast heap of litter, perhaps also two or three paste diamonds, which might pass for real with purblind judges. Even the jewel—a 'Sea piece,' by *Vanderelde*,—we think exhibits several flaws, though it brought first-rate price, 1,475 guineas! Its beauties, however, are half interred beneath an accumulation of dirt; when restored to full daylight again, through the skill of Mr. Brown, the apparent purchaser, we can imagine them not to have been much overvalued. The composition presents a grim and broken expanse of livid waves, edged with greyish foam, illustrating that most expressive epithet in the fine old ballad of Sir Patrick Spens—"the *gurlie* sea"—a word still familiar among our Scottish and Irish compatriots. Ships and small craft rock and jostle upon the disquieted element; an open barrier of piles ill protects a low headland against which the surges rebound with what may be called a visible roar, for the hurly-burly is evident from its concomitant appearances. Clouds form the distance, and have the same leaden hue as the ocean. Yet, despite all these constituents of grandeur, the composition wants, in our opinion, a due economy to give it full effect; as a whole, it betrays that feebleness which, we think, most often distinguishes *Vanderelde*'s larger productions; at least we have seldom seen any without a certain waste of canvas, whilst his smaller works have not a square inch "to let," and are pregnant throughout, even though their details be few. This, perhaps, is partly owing to the painter's favourite neutral tint, that becomes weak and monotonous when spread over a wide surface; partly to a less deep and powerful impasto than seems suitable for such dimensions. His manipulation, likewise, so spirited in a cabinet-piece, looks somewhat feeble in a gallery picture. That one now discussed evinces lassitude of hand (we should have said *mind*) here and there; but *Vanderelde* never delineated a troubled sea more ably; if the frame held water, water could not represent itself better.—

it could not represent a troubled sea at all! The so-called *Rembrandt*, a 'Christ leaning on a Staff,' brought 240 guineas; the 'Parce somnum rumpere,' ascribed to *Sanseverino*, 185; the 'Holy Family,' affiliated upon *Andrea del Sarto*, 135. A large landscape, very black in the shadows, spotty in the lights, and hard in the handling, had nevertheless some air of a true *Pynacker*, brought 140 guineas. We forgot to mention, last week, the price of *Brueghel* and *Van Balen*'s 'Triumph of Flora,'—145 guineas.

It is announced in the *Times*, that the Duke of Sussex's library is forthwith to be disposed of. It is stipulated in the will that it shall be in the first instance offered to the British Museum; and that, in the event of such national establishment declining to purchase, it shall be sold in such manner as the executors may direct. The library, it appears, consists of upwards of 45,000 volumes, most of them in excellent condition, independently of MSS., consisting of early copies of different portions of the Holy Scriptures.

As the anniversary dinner of the Artist's Benevolent Fund was postponed, in consequence of the death of the Duke of Sussex, it may be well to announce that it will take place this day, and that Lord John Russell will preside.

The Horticultural Society held its first meeting at Chiswick on Saturday, and never was day more propitious,—the previous rains had brought forward the plants and trees and flowers into unusual luxuriance, and a warm sun and a cooling south-west wind made the day delightful. Nearly 5,000 persons were present.

We can but notify in a line, as having taken place, the concerts of *Miss Steele*, *Mr. Venua*, *Miss Dolby* and *Miss Orger*. The last named ladies deserve as many words of encouragement as can be packed into a small compass: the one for her cleverness and invention as a pianist, the other as the best of our younger English *contraltos*, to whom time and experience will doubtless give that more refined delivery, and more polished execution, which are demanded to keep due proportion with a voice so beautiful and expression so true as she possesses. So, too, a line must announce the revival of 'I Puritani' at Her Majesty's Theatre, and the *début* of Signor Camillo Sivori. Of his performances on the violin, we shall take the earliest occasion of speaking.

The great annual Rhenish Musical Festival is to be held this year at Aix-la-Chapelle, on the 4th and 5th of next month. Upwards of fifteen hundred performers will be assembled on the occasion. The programme will include, *First day*, a Magnificat by Durante; Mozart's symphony in G minor, and Handel's oratorio of 'Samson.' *Second day*—the 'Sinfonia Eroica' of Beethoven; an unpublished psalm, by M. Reisseger (under whose direction the performances will take place); a hymn by Cherubini; another by Vogler; and the overture to 'Les Francs Juges,' by M. Berlioz. This eccentric composer, by the way, is exciting a sensation in the Prussian capital. A second concert at which some of his works have been performed, seeming to have been more successful than his first. Our next news from Berlin will probably tell us of the first performance of the 'Medea' of Euripides, with Mendelssohn Bartholdy's choruses.

We observe that a new opera by Maestro Peri—of whose good promise as an Italian composer we spoke some two years since—has been successful at Parma. By the title of the work, 'Esther d'Engaddi,' we presumed the *libretto* to have been arranged from the tragedy of that name by Pellico.

The statue of Joan of Arc, the fine work of the late Princess Marie of France, presented by her royal father to the Department of the Voges, was inaugurated, on the 9th of the present month, in its new abode in the house at Domremy, where the heroine was born, amid an immense concourse of spectators collected from all points of the department.

The *Journal de la Meurthe* gives the following account of a meteorological phenomenon, which on the 4th of the present month, affrighted the town and neighbourhood of Nancy. "A globe of fire," says that paper, "three or four metres in length, traversed the heavens from west to east, about two in the morning. This immense meteor was of a brightness so intense, that the inhabitants of the country, who witnessed this extraordinary spectacle, were terrified into the belief that they were instantly to be destroyed by it. The meteor

appeared not more than thirty metres above the earth, travelled at the slow rate of about one kilometre per minute, and was preceded by an electric detonation. The horses of the diligence from Metz to Nancy took fright at its aspect, and overturned the carriage.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS, TRAFALGAR SQUARE.
THE EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY IS NOW OPEN.
Admission (from 8 o'clock till 7), 1s. Catalogue, 1s.

HENRY HOWARD, R.A., Sec.
THE NEW SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.—
THE NINTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION of this Society is NOW OPEN, at their GALLERY, 53, Pall Mall, next the British Institution, from 9 till dusk, daily. Admission, 1s. Catalogue, 6d.

JAMES FAIRLEY, Secretary.
THE THIRTY-NINTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION OF THE SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS at their GALLERY, Pall Mall East, is NOW OPEN. Open each day from Nine till Dusk. Admission, 1s.; Catalogue, 6d.

H. HILLS, Secretary.
DIORAMA, REGENT'S PARK.
JUST OPENED, with a NEW EXHIBITION, representing the CATHERINE DE' MEDICI at Paris, with effects of Sunlight and Moonlight, painted by M. RENOUX, and the BASILICA OF ST. PAUL, near Rome, before and after its destruction by Fire, painted by M. BOUTON. Open from Ten till Five.

EXHIBITION OF SIR GEORGE HATYER'S GREAT PICTURE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS, painted on 170 square feet of canvas, and containing portraits of all the Members of Parliament, also a portrait of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, and various other works, forming a collection of more than 800 portraits of eminent personages of the present day. Open from 10 till dusk.—At the Egyptian-hall, Piccadilly. Admission, 1s.

THE CHINESE COLLECTION, Hyde Park-corner.—This UNIQUE COLLECTION consists of objects exclusively Chinese, and surpasses in extent and grandeur any similar display in the known world. The SPACIOUS SALOON is 225 feet in length, and is crowded with rare and interesting specimens of virtue. The Collection embraces upwards of SIXTY FIGURES AS LARGE AS LIFE, portraits from the most celebrated artists in their native costumes, from the MANDARIN of the highest rank to the wandering Mendicant; also MANY THOUSAND SPECIMENS in Natural History and Miscellaneous Curiosities, the whole illustrating the appearance, manners, customs, and social life of more than THREE HUNDRED MILLION CHINESE.—Open from 10 till 10.—Admission 2s. 6d. Children under 12 years, 1s.

SCIENTIFIC AND LITERARY

GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.

May 8.—G. B. Greenough, Esq., V.P. in the chair.
Read.—'An Account of a Journey through the country of the Mamaseni, or Khogilii,' (tribes of Lurs) by the Baron Clement Augustus de Bode. On the 21st of January, 1841, the traveller having visited the cavern which contains the colossal statue of Shapur, in the hills bearing that name, and explored the labyrinth by torchlight, descended into the valley, and followed up the course of the river of Shapur, after which he proceeded northward, and reached the camp of a Mamaseni chief at a place called Chenochéjan. The river of Shapur comes from the mountains of Piri-Zen, traverses the valley of Deshti Beri, forces its way through the Kuteli Dokhter mountains, and then waters the plain of Kazerin, after which it is lost behind the mountains of Kemorij. The camp and its position is next described, and the beautiful valley of Bám, lying between vineyards and pomegranate groves, on the right, and a wild tract on the left, which reaches to the Persian Gulf, and is inhabited solely by lions and other wild beasts. Proceeding northward, the plain of Sarai Barám was reached, having at its entrance some rock sculptures, (which are minutely described in the paper, and of which a beautiful sketch was exhibited). The rivers of Nobendjan were next passed; it was once a flourishing city, at which Timúr halted before he laid siege to Kaley Sefid, which place, after passing the fort of Nur-abád, the traveller left on his right; it has been described by Mr. Macdonald Kinneir. From Nur-abád the route goes northward over hills, and then descends in a north-west direction into the lovely Narcissus-covered valley of the Abi-Shúr. Fahliyan was next reached—now a paltry town of sixty or seventy houses, but formerly of some importance. The place is supplied with water by a channel coming from the rocks at some distance; that of the Abi-Shúr being, as its name implies, brackish. The land here is very fertile, yielding in the winter, crops from twenty-five to fifty for one; sesamum is cultivated, and yields one hundred for one. Leaving Fahliyan, the traveller forded the Abi-Shúr, and visited some ruins, but of little interest. The Abi-Shúr rises in the snowy mountains of Ardekán; and after forcing a passage through the hills, west of Fahliyan, flows on to the Persian Gulf. The valley of Serabi was next traversed; its western extremity is a marsh, full of deep pools and reeds, the abode of many wild animals. The Abi-Shúr was then forded, and the traveller entered the valley of Basht. (Here the paper goes into an historical dis-

quisition respecting the Mamaseni, and a table of the divisions of the tribe is given.) The castle of Basht is surrounded by the houses of the chief's vassals. The traveller was hospitably treated at this place; on leaving it, he crossed some hills, and then descended into a valley full of oaks, almonds, and other trees. Dughumbesun was next reached, a place twenty-seven miles from Basht. During the whole of this route neither water nor habitations were met with, though ruined villages and subterranean canals showed that formerly there had been both. After leaving Dughumbesun, the road continued west along the valley, then took a north-west direction, and crossed two small streams, when the traveller came to the Kheir Abad river, so called from a village of the same name on its opposite bank, but better known as the Haidiyan; it is the Arosis of the ancients, and the Abi Shirin of Timur's route: from this river to Bibehan the distance is eleven miles.

To this paper was added another by the same author, being an essay on the probable site of the Uxian city, besieged by Alexander the Great on his way from Lusa to Persia. The Baron thinks the site of the city is at Mal Amir.

STATISTICAL SOCIETY.

May 15.—W. Tooke, Esq., V.P. in the chair.—Three new Fellows were elected.—A translation, by Sir J. Boileau, Bart., of a paper by M. Passy, of Paris, 'On the division of heritable property, and its influence on the distribution of wealth,' was read. It has been so generally received an opinion in this country that the law of inheritance in France tends to subdivide property almost *ad infinitum*, and to level fortunes to a similar scale, that a paper by so eminent a person as M. Passy, controverting this opinion, and bringing forward, for the first time, statistical facts to prove that inequality of fortunes must always exist, is well worthy attention. The author commences by showing, that among the ancients all attempts to legislate for the preservation of equality of wealth, failed, and then refers both to the feudal and modern times for proofs that if laws of inheritance are able to influence the division of fortunes into classes, they cannot reduce or confine them within any fixed or equal limits. In Poland, though only five estates have been entailed on the eldest son, a few families have obtained almost regal wealth, while the greater part of the numerous nobility have fallen into indigence. He then proceeds to notice the most powerful causes constantly in operation to account for these facts, and secure the unequal diffusion of wealth. M. Passy then passes to the special causes in France, and is of opinion that the greatest influence is exercised there by the very unequal number of children born to a marriage in the different classes of society, and the fact that the rich class has fewest of all. From 1826 to 1836, the average number of legitimate children born annually in France, was 904,702, and as the average number of marriages during the same period was 256,927, it follows that the number of births to each marriage has been 3.52. The 39 principal towns, of more than 20,000 inhabitants, contain a population of 2,634,523, and the annual average of births has been 65,290, and of marriages 21,374, giving only 3.05 births to a marriage; thus the average of births in these towns is less than that of the country in general by 0.47, and less than the average of rural districts and towns under 20,000 inhabitants united, by 0.51, or nearly 15 per cent. It appears therefore that the average of births is least in those towns where the mass of the inhabitants live upon their means, and greatest where the working class is most numerous. The effect which riches have upon restraining the fecundity of marriages is nowhere more apparent than in Paris. The most opulent families of France congregate there, and the marriages show fewer births where the population is the richest. In the four first arrondissements united, which are those where the most opulent families reside, the number of children to a marriage is only 1.97, while the average of the four poorest is 2.86. These facts deserve the more attention, because in spite of the reasons that determine the inhabitants of Paris to choose peculiar localities according to their respective circumstances, some poor families will be found in the quarters inhabited by the rich, and some rich families in the quarters occupied by the poor. If,

therefore, the most opulent portion of the population of Paris, which has not two children to a marriage, was not renewed by the accession to its ranks of families recently enriched, it would be speedily diminished, and its progress towards extinction would be more rapid than that of any of the aristocratic bodies of which history preserves the recollection. It is therefore quite clear that one of the most important causes towards the unequal distribution of wealth arises from the less fecundity of marriages among the higher classes of society. The prevailing opinion, that riches diffuse themselves, and pass from the hands of their possessors amongst the mass of the population, is based on the incontrovertible fact of the gradual multiplication of subdivisions of the soil: 123,630,328 subdivisions are now admitted in France, and it is argued that this parcelling out of the soil would not have occurred without the number of landed proprietors having immeasurably augmented. M. Passy conceives this to be a great error, and thinks that there is nothing really in common between the parcelling out of the land and the state or quantity of private fortunes, and he believes that territorial subdivisions may be multiplied without wealth being displaced or subdivided into smaller or more numerous portions. In 1815 there were 10,083,751 names registered as landed proprietors; in 1835 it appears there were 10,893,528, giving an increase in twenty years of 8 per cent. of proprietors: an important fact, if the population had remained stationary; but to estimate it rightly, it is necessary to consider what has been the advance of the population during the same period. In 1815 it was only 29,152,743, while, in 1835, it had reached 33,326,573, an increase of 14 per cent. Thus, while the number of proprietors only increased 8 per cent., the population increased 14 per cent., proving that instead of increasing in equal ratio, the number of proprietors is proportionally diminished. It was, moreover, computed in 1815 that France contained 100 fixed capitalists in every 290 inhabitants, but in 1835 only 100 in 305, showing that the number of proprietors, as compared to the rest of the population, has decreased 24 per cent. M. Passy then proceeds to investigate what change has occurred in the amount of fortunes distributed amongst the class possessing property. The value of property transmitted by will or inheritance in 1826, was 1,345,711,516 fr., and in 1836 it had increased to 1,560,320,825 fr., thus showing that the real and personal property transmitted by deaths increased nearly 16 per cent. in 11 years. If the classes possessing property have not multiplied as fast as the rest of the community, they have at least gained 4 per cent. in the 13 years prior to 1836, and yet, far from the fortunes of individuals being diminished by it, the general progress of wealth has increased. The author concludes by stating, that division of inheritances, far from having produced equality in the distribution of wealth, has been overcome by the causes tending to inequality, and a tendency towards concentration has resulted. The population has increased in France in the last 13 years 8 per cent.; wealth more than 16 per cent.; and if the classes of proprietors have seen their fortunes augmented, the working classes have also seen the fund which remunerates their toil, increase more rapidly than the hands which divide it.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—May 9.—The President in the chair.—The paper read was by the Rev. Mr. Clutterbuck, 'On the periodical Drainage and Replenishment of the Chalk Basin of London,' in continuation of a former communication (*Athen.* No. 762). The object was to show the existence of a continuous subterranean water level, dipping at an average inclination from the river Colne, to the Thames below London; with reference to which the author was enabled to determine with accuracy the height to which water would rise between those two points. A minute account was given of the nature and origin of the supply of water to that portion of the Basin which underlies the London and plastic clays, together with a detail of certain remarkable phenomena observable at the points at which the water finds its way into the chalk; by which it appeared that, a great portion of the rain-water which flows from the surface of the clays by water-courses, sinks into the subjacent chalk on its arrival at the outcrop of the sand of the plastic clay formation, and

thus regulates and maintains the subterranean supply for the metropolis. It was also shown that there is a depression of the natural level under London, caused by the great exhaustion of water by pumping from deep wells, sunk either into the chalk or sand of the plastic clay formation, and that this depression is gradually increasing and already extends two or three miles beyond the metropolis.

In the discussion which ensued, the question of the probable exhaustion of the River Colne, and of the reservoir in the chalk, was strongly insisted on, if ever any considerable amount of pumping should take place in the valley near Watford for the supply of water to London; and it was shown from the register of two rain-gauges, one of them on the surface, and the other buried three feet under the ground at Nash Mills, that of the rain which fell in two years rather less than half reached the buried gauge; that therefore any calculation of a supply equal to that shown by ordinary rain-gauges would be fallacious.

May 16.—The President in the chair.—A paper by Captain Handcock was read, describing a Railway Axle invented by him, which had been used for nine months on the Southampton Railway. The alterations consisted in making the journals of a conical form at the shoulder end, and at the outer end, a similar conical collar slides upon the journal, and can be forced forward by a screw collar at the extremity; the brasses are also conical at the entrances, following the parallel form of the journal, and meet in the centre within half an inch; they can revolve in the bored cast iron boxes when the friction upon the axle becomes excessive. It has been found that this form prevents the usual oscillation of the carriages, because, if the brasses wear, the conical collar is screwed up, and the lateral motion ceases; the wear and tear is diminished, and the saving of oil is very great: it was stated that one pint of oil had sufficed to lubricate all the axle-bearings of a six-wheeled engine and a four-wheeled tender whilst running 924 miles; and that there was not any tendency to heat.

A paper was read upon Zinc as a protecting covering to iron, and the adaptation of the process of electro-deposition for this purpose, by Mr. F. Pellatt. Iron is, from its superior affinity for oxygen, susceptible of rapid decomposition, and it has ever been a desideratum to discover some cheap mode of protecting it; the ordinary methods of painting and tinning being not sufficiently durable. By the laws of electricity when metals are in contact, the negative metal is protected at the expense of the positive; and under all ordinary circumstances zinc being the positive metal, it becomes a protector to the negative metal iron. Zinc, like most metals in commerce, is not to be met with pure: in the other metals, however, the impurities do not generally tend to the injury of the metal with which they are in contact: such, however, is not the case with zinc, and its impurities; together, (when in contact with moisture) they generate a galvanic current, by which the zinc is rapidly destroyed. The impurities existing in ordinary zinc, and the difficulty and costliness of the process of sublimation, in order to procure pure zinc, were noticed. It was also strongly insisted on that impure zinc, itself being of little value, could not afford protection to any other metal upon which it might be coated; and that, therefore, the mode of plating iron with melted zinc (of commerce) was objectionable. The report made to the French Academy, by M. Dumas, was quoted, he says "the zincing of iron, by steeping it in a bath of melted zinc, has many inconveniences; besides the iron combining with the zinc, constitutes a very brittle superficial alloy, the iron losing its tenacity." It is known that in the deposition of metals from metallic salts by the electro process, the pure metal only is deposited, so that the process proposed in the papers is not open to the ordinary objections. The iron also being coated with zinc in a cold solution, its state is no way changed. The expense of the process was stated to be trifling, not exceeding that of four coats of oil paint. The electro process seems entirely to overcome the difficulty of coating with pure zinc, as well as to afford facilities for covering iron work of whatever form or size, and as it requires no great outlay, the process may be carried on anywhere. Zinc has another great advantage: though itself easily oxidized, the oxide in ordinary circumstances is insoluble, and affords a pro-

tection to the metal below. For roofing and many other purposes, it was suggested that zinc iron would be found very useful. Many specimens of zinc iron (some of which had been exposed to the weather for months) were exhibited to the meeting, as well as specimens of iron coated with copper by the same process. Some large specimens of railing, for the palace, coppered upon iron, the ornamental part at top being gilt, appeared very beautiful.

It was stated that Messrs. Elkington & Co. have given an estimate for zincing the Suspension Bridge at Hungerford Market.

MEDICO-BOTANICAL SOCIETY.—May 11.—H. Gibbs, Esq., in the chair.—A communication from Dr. Houlton, 'On the collecting and preserving roots for medicinal purposes,' was read.—The discordant opinions found amongst medical practitioners and authors respecting the medicinal properties of indigenous vegetable remedies, may be attributed, in a measure, to want of information respecting the method of collecting, preserving, and manipulating these important articles; as pharmacologists have no sound practical guide to direct them, there is a want of uniformity in their preparation, and consequently in their properties. To remedy this was Dr. Houlton's object, by laying down some safe rule for collecting and preserving roots. The directions contained in the *London Pharmacopœia* he condemns as uncertain and erroneous; and further shows, that the instructions for the same purpose, contained in the work of Dr. Bellingham and Dr. Mitchell, are incorrect. He observes, that all roots should be taken up at the time that their leaves die, as they then abound with the proper secretions of the plant. This rule has no exception; it applies to the roots of trees, shrubs, herbs, rootstocks, bulbs, corms, and tubers; and it includes the curious plant, *Colchicum*, whose flower only appears in the autumn, and its leaves and fruit the following spring and summer. Biennial roots must be taken up in the first year of their duration, as when the leaves decay in the second year, their roots are either decayed, or merely dry woody fibre. Roots intended to be preserved should be dried as soon as possible after they have been dug up; the large tree roots, especially the more juicy ones, dry better in their entire state than when sliced.

METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY.—May.—G. Leach, Esq., V.P., in the chair.—Prof. Sewell, V. H. Culen, M.D., W. Burrows, Esq., were elected members.—Papers read: 'On Solar, Stellar, and Cometary Light, with an attempt to explain the manner these Phenomena influence the Earth's Atmosphere,' by Lieut. Morrison, R.N., to which were added, by way of supplemental remarks, 'On the Peculiarity of the Weather during the first week in May, 1843,' being a practical application of the principles laid down in the above paper. A paper from P. M'Farlane, Esq., of Comrie, on his hourly self-registering barometer, with a letter from D. Milne, Esq., Edinburgh. A paper from J. Ruskin, Esq., describing a Double Lunar Halo with two Paraselenes, as seen at Camberwell on the 18th of March last. Several notices of the *Aurora Borealis*, and other phenomena, were next read, and tables from numerous stations compared. The meetings were adjourned till November.

SOCIETY OF ARTS.—May 10.—Dr. Roget in the chair.—The Earl of Clarendon was elected a member.—The Secretary read a paper by H. Fardon, Esq., 'On the Improvement of the Art of Agriculture,' the object of which is to show the importance, in a national point of view, of introducing generally an improved mode of cultivation by means of spade husbandry. After entering into details, with respect to the two systems of agriculture chiefly pursued, which are known as the low system and the high system—the former being based on the principle of annual tenancy, the latter on that of granting leases—the writer proceeds with an examination of the third system, or spade husbandry, and quotes the following case, as showing the profit to be realized by its judicious adoption. The experiment was made on two acres of land for twenty-seven years, and on two other acres of land for fifteen years, alternate crops of wheat and potatoes being produced, and the land, which is stiff clay, being turned up with a fork ten inches deep. The cost of the wheat crop, including planting, keeping clean, reaping and thrashing, was at the rate of 1*l.* 17*s.* per acre; and of the

potatoe crop, including breast-ploughing, wheat stubble, forking land, planting, cleaning, and getting up and harvesting, 5*l.* 15*s.* 3*d.* per acre, the average being 4*l.* 6*s.* 14*d.* per acre, while the annual produce realized the sum of 69*l.* 5*s.* 6*d.*, or at the rate of 17*l.* 6*s.* 4*d.* per acre, surplus, subject only to deductions for rent and parochial taxes. It must be remembered that this profit was effected by the sale, and not by the consumption of a great part of the produce, the latter being the prevailing custom. As a further proof of the adequate productive powers of the system the writer advocates, he adduces the well known case of Mrs. Gilbert, of Eastbourne, who, through her benevolent exertions, has succeeded in establishing self-supporting national schools, by receiving rent for the land occupied by the master, who instructs the children in the usual course of education in the morning, and employs them on his land in the afternoon. Mr. Fardon recommends that a portion of land should be attached to every country union, to be cultivated by the able-bodied poor, according to the third system, the effect of which would be to reduce the poor's rate. He further suggests, that the redundancy of manufacturing labour might be turned to account in cultivation by spade husbandry.

May 17.—B. Rotch, Esq., V.P., in the chair. The Secretary read a paper 'On the subject of Mr. Cooke's Practical Electric Telegraph as now used on the Great Western Railway,' which was illustrated by a complete telegraph at work in the Society's Rooms. Mr. Cooke first adopted the plan of laying the telegraph wires in iron tubing. This plan, though successful, was costly, and difficult to repair when injured. More recently he has carried out, on the Great Western Railway, a plan of suspending the conducting wires in the open air from lofty poles—the leading advantages of which are, 1. diminished cost—2. superior insulation, and 3. facility of repair. The cost of the original plan may be stated at about 300*l.* per mile, while, by the improved system, it is reduced to 150*l.*, with a still greater advantage in favour of the permanency of the work. The present method of proceeding in laying down the telegraph, is, first to fix firmly into the ground at every 500 or 600 yards strong posts of timber, 16 to 18 feet in height by 8 inches square at bottom, and tapering off to 6 by 7 inches at top, fixed into stout sills and properly stouted. Attached to the heads of these posts are a number of winding apparatus, corresponding with the number of conducting wires to be employed, and between every two of such posts upright wooden standards are fixed about 60 or 70 yards apart. A ring of iron wire (No. 7 or 8), which had been formed by welding together the short lengths of which it is made, is then placed upon a reel, carried on a hand-barrow, and one end being attached to the winder at one draw post, the wire is extended to the adjoining draw post and fixed to its corresponding winder; by turning the pin of the ratchet wheel with a proper key, the wire is tightened to the necessary degree—thus the greatest accuracy may be attained in drawing the wires up till they hang perfectly parallel with each other. To sufficiently insulate the wires so suspended at the point of contact with the posts, is an object of indispensable importance, as the dampness of the wood during rainy weather would otherwise allow the electric fluid to pass off freely into the earth or into an adjoining wire, and thus complete the circuit without reaching the distant terminus at which the telegraphic effect is to be produced. In this lies an important feature in Mr. Cooke's invention, as the mere idea of supporting wires in the open air from poles, trees, or church steeples is the oldest on record. For long distances Mr. Cooke employs earthenware or glass for his insulation, and cast iron standards with ash tops as drawing and suspending posts. Another point in connexion with this step in the invention is the perfect insulation from the earth: this allows of the employment of the earth as half of the conducting circuit, without risk of the current finding a shorter course through some imperfectly insulated point. For two years Mr. Cooke has tried this plan successfully on the Blackwall Railway, and lately on the Manchester and Leeds line. Two advantages arise from the employment of the earth as a conductor; 1st, one wire is saved in each circuit—thus diminishing complexity and cost; and 2nd, the earth acting as a vast reservoir of electricity, the resistance offered

to the transmission of the electricity is vastly diminished, and the battery is able to work through a much greater distance with a smaller conducting wire. Thus each telegraph on the Great Western Railway can be made to work with two wires.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- Mon.** Geographical Society, 1 p.m.—Annual.
 — Numismatic Society.—Annual.
Tues. Zoological Society, 8.—Scientific Business.
 — Institution of Civil Engineers, 8.—“A Second Communication upon the Action of Air, and Water, whether Fresh or Salt, and at various Temperatures, upon Iron and Steel,” by R. Mallet.
Wed. Geological Society, half-past 8.
 — Linnean Society, 1.—Anniversary.
 — Society of Arts, 8.—Professor Faraday’s mode of Ventilating Lamp Burners will be described; also Mr. Lee’s Safety Railway Carriage.
Thurs. Royal Society, half-past 8.
 — Royal Society of Literature, 4.
 — Philological Society, 3.—Anniversary.
 — Medico-Botanical Society, 8.
 — Society of Antiquaries, 8.
Fri. Royal Institution, half-past 8.—Rev. John Barlow, “On Man’s power of controlling, or preventing, the manifestation of Insanity in himself.”

FINE ARTS

ROYAL ACADEMY.

WE have been obliged, for cogent reasons, to defer thus late our remarks on the present Exhibition, and in the interim, have been exceedingly edified by the very opposite opinions concerning it, which are current in the world of Art as well as the world of Fashion. Some abuse it, because they have always been accustomed to hear it abused, and because they are, very literally, “nothing, if not critical;” and others praise it, because the Royal Academy ought to be kept up; and the Royal Academicians are, some of them, very excellent fellows. As to the criticism in the newspapers and periodicals into which we have glanced, it is, with a few distinguished exceptions, in the same flashy and trashy style as usual; and from its shallowness, its inconsistency, its flatness, and its flippancy, well calculated to make all artists, even those who, otherwise, might have modestly enough to profit by it, condemn and mistrust a power so carelessly, so ignorantly, and often so unjustly exercised. Apollo he knows, that we pretend not to infallibility of judgment, but we do pretend to honesty, and to a respect for what we consider the true immutable principles of Art; and we write with the feeling and the conviction, that if the criticism of the day—*newspaper criticism* as it has been slightly termed—be of little consequence or value to the artist, it may have some influence, however trifling, in assisting to form the taste of the public. How few ever visit an exhibition or a picture gallery, with any standard of excellence in their own minds, or any clear idea of what they may reasonably demand or expect in the different walks of Art!

Of the present Exhibition, generally speaking, we should say that it is the best we have had for some years past—the most hopeful—we had nearly said the most promising:—we are aware that this kind of impression may arise out of the mood of mind in which we may happen to be when we pay our first visit. It is quite true, that there is the same lack of anything great in purpose or in style—the same superabundance of under-sized history and pretty furniture pictures of sentiment—the same, or even a larger proportion of over-sized portraiture, three sides of the two largest rooms are, if we remember rightly, covered with portraits, full-length ladies and gentlemen in attitudes; but it is nevertheless an Exhibition which has left a feeling of interest in the mind. On the whole, “we do spy some marks of amendment;” we bring away memories and images more distinct and impressive than usual. The pictures of our artists of established name and fame, are not many, but they are good, and painted mostly with a due respect for their own fame, and a due respect for that public, to which they are not now to appeal for patronage, for they can command it, but which looks up to them with a just pride and confidence to be guided—to be instructed, as well as delighted and refined. We have also to regret the absence of some favourites, for whose names and numbers we instinctively search the index to the catalogue. Mulready does not exhibit this year—he, who in truth and homely sentiment, united to the most delicate mastery of hand, emulated the best of the old Dutchmen. Nor Callcott, our most poetical landscape painter, who might have been our Claude, if some cold influence from our northern skies had

not apparently breathed a misty chill over his classical Italian scenes. And poor Wilkie! This is the first Exhibition we can remember, since our early boyhood, in which his name has been absent; and though of late years he had taken to evil ways, and slurred and daubed after a vile fashion, still we shall not easily replace him. These recollections of the absent, subtract something from the amount of gratification; but our younger artists are in great force; there are pictures here, which indicate higher aspirations than we have seen of late on the walls of our Exhibitions; which encourage us to believe that if the taste and the demand for a higher style of art be awakened in this country, it will be met by a development of adequate power. The portraits, the *tableaux de genre*, and landscapes are, as usual, charming—nay, more charming than usual.

There are this year 780 exhibitors, and 1,530 works of Art, which on a comparison with former years shows a progressive increase of numbers, which might well alarm any artistic Malthusian who should set himself to calculate results: “as if in Art were propagation too.” The number of works exhibited at the Academy in 1810, was 1,241. In 1842 they amounted to 1,343; last year to 1,409, and this year as we have stated, to 1,530. Now, if out of these 1,530, there be, peradventure, fifty, or twenty, or even five, which have not been painted for Art-Unions, or Annals, or fashionable boudoirs, or to please the million, but for fair fame and its just reward, we may rejoice over the salvation of Art, and pronounce that the world of thought within us is likely to find again its interpretation in the world of Nature around us.

Now, to take things in order and in detail, let us see first, what has been done in the highest department of Art, in historical painting, under which head are comprised all subjects, from sacred or profane history, or from the poets which rank as classical: of these there are few, and a larger proportion than usual are either taken from Scripture, or have a religious tendency. Such subjects have the disadvantage of having been already well nigh exhausted by the elder painters, so that it is difficult to devise any novelty of treatment; and the advantage of dealing with effects and appealing to sympathies, which are inexhaustible.

108, *Hagar and Ishmael*, C. L. Eastlake, R.A., a picture of exquisite grace and sentiment and originality, as regards the conception of a most hackneyed subject. Hagar, bending over the fainting boy, is in the act of presenting to him the refreshment to which he stretches forth his thirsty lips; he has half raised himself on one hand, and his back is to the spectator. The desert extends far behind, till mingled with the distant horizon; a withered fallen date tree lying on the ground, serves the double purpose of breaking and relieving the arid background, with its monotonous lines, and conveying the idea of extreme drought and barrenness. The attitude and countenance of Hagar are full of simple beauty, and the figure and limbs of Ishmael, the youthful flexibility of the back, and the correct marking, finished without display or obtrusiveness, the colour subdued yet rich, are all characteristic of this accomplished painter. He has no other picture this year, which may be a matter of regret, but none of surprise; as Secretary to the Commission for the Decoration of the Houses of Parliament, Mr. Eastlake has sacrificed to the promotion of his art, the time and the talents which might be more profitably to himself expended in the exercise of his art: but this is his affair, and we have more cause for gratitude than complaint. If anything effective is done, it will be in great part owing to his devotion to the object, and his perfect understanding of the end to be attained, and the means to be employed.

339, *Christ and the Woman of Samaria*, J. R. Herbert, A. There is great beauty in this picture, from the earnestness and simplicity of the conception; the wondering expression on the woman’s face is good, but the head of Christ is a failure; in trying to give simplicity, the artist has given us vacancy. We think so highly of Mr. Herbert, that we should venture to point out, did space and time allow it, some other faults of execution and management, which an artist of so much feeling and taste might easily have avoided.

361, *Jephtha’s Daughter: the last Day of Mourning*, H. O’Neil. This is a very beautiful and carefully painted picture. The daughter of Jephtha, and her

attendant virgins, are seen grouped on an eminence in front; some are singing to their musical instruments, others are mourning around; in the far distance, over the plain, camels are seen advancing, which are to carry the victim back to her home—and to death. The effect is that of a glorious eastern sunset; the whole group is kept in a full bright light, and the variety and gaiety of the colours would give it rather too much the air of a bouquet of flowers, considering the solemnity and pathos of the subject, if the beauty and expression of the heads and the simplicity of the grouping did not redeem this minor fault. The whole picture must be pronounced beautiful, and it is so far in advance of any of Mr. O’Neil’s former efforts as to have come upon us as a surprise.

423, *Solomon Eagle exhorting the people to repentance during the Plague of the year 1665*, P. F. Poole. This is another picture which has agreeably surprised us; not that the subject is agreeable, but, on the contrary, so full of horror, pain, and pity, that we should not wish to inhabit the room in which it hung; but in point of power and painting it is admirable: and no subject so full of physical horror was ever more finely treated; it appears to us one of the very best pictures in the Exhibition. The great number of figures, grouped without confusion or perplexity, and the concentration of the interest and effect, round the crazed prophet in the centre; the beautiful girl looking up in front; the ruffian, the reckless gambler, the delicious patient who has escaped from his bed, the ominous looking masked robbers, armed with aromatic essences, one of those horrid women who we are told went about strangling and rifling the dying wretches, and who looks as if arrested by the denunciations of judgment—all these, and a great variety of accessories, render this picture very dramatic and striking without too far outraging the feelings. There is something, too, very effective in the ghastly glare of light shed over the scene, which is also in accordance with all the descriptions of that hideous period, when in the sultry, vapoury noon-tide sun, there was a supernatural ominous glare. It is a powerful picture—and gives earnest of a higher power, which will make us look anxiously for the future works of this artist.

306, *John Knox endeavouring to restrain the violence of the people who, excited by his eloquence against the Church of Rome, destroyed the altar, missals, images of saints, &c. at Perth, in 1559*, J. P. Knight, A.—A great deal of careful painting, and good intention, and variety of expression distinguish this picture, with, however, the tendency to coarseness and the want of elevation and poetry, which are, we think, the defects of this meritorious painter: besides this picture, Mr. Knight exhibits six portraits.

William Etty, R.A., has this year seven pictures in the Exhibition, all of merit—but we could wish that, instead of these seven, he had exhibited one really worthy of him. He is our historical painter par excellence, yet not one of these, whatever names or titles he has been pleased to give them, can be called an historical picture. It appears to us, that Mr. Etty has taken his Academy studies of female form, and by the addition of some significant adjunct, has turned them into subjects; thus his *Entombment* is a female model, with dishevelled hair, *posée* as Magdalen, and a group of well-drawn, well-painted figures behind, very like bandits, carrying a dead body; but of the grandeur, the gloom, and the pathos of the deposition of Christ in the sepulchre, we have nothing here—it is worse than Caravaggio. In the same manner we have a woman stooping down, and an ark and a baby being added, it is the *Mother of Moses*. A fore-shortened female figure, excellently drawn as a study, becomes, by the addition of a Cupid, *Venus slumbering in the Greenwood Shade*,—and so on,—the want of intention and character everywhere apparent. We hold this to be unworthy of the mature genius, the acknowledged power, the practised hand of such a man as Etty; so that unless we should hear that his time and efforts are devoted to some great work, and that these things are exhibited as what they are,—studies, not pictures,—we shall visit him with more severe criticism hereafter: for the present we pass on.

C. Leslie, R.A., has five pictures this year, of unequal merit. Of these, *The Queen receiving the Sacrament on the Day of her Coronation*, must rank as History, but it is unavoidably History treated in the

genre style. The difficulties of the subject have been met, and in great part overcome, with taste and judgment, and the profile of the Queen is one of the best likenesses we have seen of Her Majesty; the colouring beautiful, bright and harmonious—colour is one of Leslie's excellencies. This, however, is not his best picture here—we shall have to speak of that hereafter.

287, *Waterloo on the 18th of June, half-past seven p.m.*, Sir W. Allan, R.A. Here is another picture, which, we presume, must rank as History, in which the most consummate talent has been displayed in the conquest of difficulties in art; and yet, if a panoramic view of a battle-field be history-painting, then Borgognone and Vander Meulen should take rank as historical painters—all consists in the mode of treatment. Raphael's 'Constantine and Maxentius' (even in the small copy at Hampton Court) is a grand historical picture, not a mere battle-piece, and we make the observation merely as such, not with any idea of invidious comparison: only we would rather have seen Allan's power of invention and expression and sentiment displayed on a more congenial subject than a battle-field.

516, *Angelica descending from the Flying Horse, after she had been rescued by Ruggiero: from the 'Orlando Furioso,' J. Severn.*—A very poetical subject, very poetically treated; the undraped figure of Angelica seen in front, with its bending delicacy and fair luxuriant tresses, is in exquisite taste and drawing; but in this picture, as is usual with Mr. Severn, the tone of colour is too deep—Time will do his work on it, and can hardly darken without blackening it.

Mr. Hart has no historical picture this year.

280, *Naomi and her Two Daughters-in-law, E. W. Eddis.* A group of three half-length figures, life-size, and with a certain largeness of manner in the drawing and expression, from which we augur well.

562, *Italy, W. D. Kennedy.*—groups of figures, life-size, representing an Italian festa, vine-dressers, &c., evidently intended as a decorative picture, and in style and character admirably adapted for the purpose; the colour is like that of the ancient frescoes (the 'Aldobrandini Marriage,' and others). As well as we can judge from a distance, the picture has great merit as a composition.

Clelia and the Roman Hostages,—Moses protecting the Daughters of Jethro,—and three other incidents in the life of Moses, G. Jones, R.A. Five small sketches in sepia, of historical subjects poetically treated, but certainly not historical pictures.

These brief notes comprise, we think, what has been done in History—from which the reader will also be enabled to judge what has not been done. Next week we shall review the other departments in due order.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

THE QUEEN'S CONCERT ROOMS, HANOVER SQUARE. Mr. W. H. HOLMES (Professor of the Piano-forte at the Royal Academy of Music) has the honour to announce that his MORNING CONCERT will take place on SATURDAY, June 16, 1843. To commence at half-past One o'Clock precisely. Further particulars will be duly announced.—Stalls, One Guinea each, and tickets, Half-a-Guinea each; may be had at the Principal Music-sellers, and of Mr. W. H. Holmes, 36, Beaumont-street.

ANCIENT CONCERTS.—The Fifth and Sixth Concerts were directed by the Duke of Wellington and H.R.H. Prince Albert. The Hero of Waterloo is generally enterprising on these occasions, but, on Wednesday week, the selection seemed to have been delegated to some less energetic hand; and there was nothing to call for special mention, save the performance of the great aria from the 'Creation,' by Herr Staudigl. Prince Albert's, on the contrary, was the best Ancient Concert we ever attended. Not one piece had been selected which was otherwise than choice or interesting: this time, too, we were spared the showy uselessness of the Opera corps.—Signori Mario and Lablache being the only Italians commanded on the occasion, while the other singers were the established artists usually seen at the Ancient Concerts, with Herr Staudigl, whom also it would rejoice us to keep as a fixture in England. To speak now of the music performed: we had a Gregorian chaunt, sung with double choir, a corale, by Lucius Osiander (a stranger to us), and a 'Sanctus' by Palestrina, to represent the most antique schools of music: we had, by Handel, two splendid choruses

from 'Esther' and 'Saul,' and the stately air, 'Si tra i ceppi,' from 'Berenice,' sung as only Lablache can sing it. Then we were treated to three specimens from Gluck's operas—the overture to 'Armida,' an *aria* with chorus from the same exquisite fairy tale in music, and the dream of *Orestes* with the Furies, from the 'Iphigenia.' This was sung by Sig. Mario, but the orchestra was at its very worst in its accompaniment of the lulling movement which precedes the apparition of the tormentors,—scratchy and disjointed, where delicacy and smoothness are most eminently required. Nor can we approve the blattancy of the trombones in the following chorus, the musical figures of which were entirely stifled by their indiscriminate blasts. Somehow or other, we hear these violent instruments nowhere in such prominence and plenty as at the Ancient Concerts: we presume that they are luxuries for which we have to thank the conductor. How long will it be before the respect due to the master-works of Art shall be understood in England? We are beginning to remove the tasteless modernizations which, under the pretence of ornament, have disfigured our old buildings—but when will our directing musicians, as well as architects, admit that every age has its own proprieties, which cannot be cast aside, or exchanged for more modern modes of attire, without loss of effect and discredit? The bass *bravura* from 'Der Tod Jesu,' by Graun, a song in the mechanical style so thoroughly exhausted by Handel, deserves to be mentioned, for the sake of Staudigl's admirable execution of it. The 'Credo' from Hummel's mass in *2 flat*, the 'Te Deum' by Haydn, and the 'Gloria' from Cherubini's mass in *c*, may be grouped together as Catholic music of the modern school. The last movement is as nobly conceived as it is ingeniously executed. It is a chorus with eight *solo* parts, towards the middle of which the maintenance of one note in the accompaniment, with ever-changing harmonies in the orchestra, and ever-changing dialogue in the voices, produces an effect entirely new and happy; and still so consummately managed, as to be guiltless of any appearance of artifice. We cannot pass, without homage, Beethoven's well-known march and chorus from 'The Ruins of Athens,' nor the temple scene in 'Die Zauberflöte.' Beside these pieces, there was no want of music lighter, but still as unbacked, to relieve the ear; and had not the audience been too aristocratic to show any pleasure, (that is, supposing it to include many *cognoscenti*), the whole concert must have been warmly received. We are glad to record it, as a sign that one of our most venerable and valuable musical establishments shows signs of a renewal of its youth. We hope, next week, to have as much to say of the Philharmonic Society.

DRURY LANE.—A new life has been infused into the 'Sappho' of Pacini, by the appearance of Herr Staudigl as *Alexander*. No part, we imagine, could have been selected for the German *basso* more completely alien from his musical sympathies: however, since the selection was inevitable, we only mention the fact to honour the genius which could convert a distasteful task into a labour of love. The music allotted to the Priest is the weakest in the opera: *Sappho*, *Climene*, and *Phaon* having at least all pretty melodies to sing: whereas, the fourth voice in the quartet is devoted to the most insipid of insipid *cantabiles* and *bravuras*. Yet with these Herr Staudigl electrified his audience. Small, too, as is the variety of action admissible, he nevertheless contrived to give the part character and colour; and, what is still more, made his words *tell*, by the force and propriety of his emphasis, to the point at which foreign utterance was entirely forgotten. His reception was enthusiastic.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—*French Plays*.—There are some happy persons on whom the shafts of criticism fall stingless. Thus to anatomize Mdlle. Déjazet as an actress, with the view to denounce the nothingness of the dramatic bubbles buoyed up by her brilliant animal spirits, were lost labour. Who would care to put himself in the predicament of the *Père de Jay* in 'Voltaire en vacances,' to be set at naught by an *Aronet* as saucy as herself? Not we. For safety's sake then (if not for honesty's) we had better maintain her personation of the author of the

Henriade in his boyish days to be without fault. Thus, too, we will forbear dwelling upon the inanity of such mirth—veritable 'crackling of thorns'—as she and M. Levassor stir up in their 'Indiana et Charlemagne': the one, the plainest spoken of *grisettes* that ever donned *débardeur's* costume to mob it at a carnival masquerade—the other so riotous a *tapageur*, though a knight of needle and shears, as to convince us that the man made of nine French tailors must be Gog or Goliath, at the smallest. But we must record our judgment that we have nothing on our own stage—Keeley's fatuous cockneys not forgotten—so indefeasibly Londonish as these two amiable young personages are Parisian. Wonderful is it to find them singing their songs, and dancing their dance at St. James's, by the light of the spectacles of solemn Lord This—and under the shadow of moral Lady Tother's turban! We are a strange people. Talk to an English woman of fashion in Paris about the Théâtre Palais Royal, and ten to one a wrinkled brow is her answer—possibly a 'not at home' from thenceforth! While here, we have the very pillar of that 'amusing little temple of ungoddiness'—as Mrs. Gore calls it—going all her lengths and breadths with a comrade as unreserved, and every one is charmed, and crying 'who but Déjazet?' Seriously, after her kind, she is of consummate excellence. We must also praise as emphatically as words can convey meaning, the performance of M. Levassor in 'La Nuit aux Soufflets,' a little comedy of higher order than the above mentioned carnival duet. In this he is a foolish Duke of Ferrara, who severely adopts Louis Quatorze for model, and, in spite of the leading-strings in which he is held by a rigorous Dowager Duchess, breaks out into weak little desires for such adventures and *bonnes fortunes* as are supposed to be becoming to royal youths. While wandering in the park at twilight in a quest of this kind, Duke Hercules receives a slap on his face by mistake. Notions of offended dignity never struggled through a duller brain: and the stratagems by which the real criminal, the Duke's master of the hounds, a sort of second-hand Dubois, contrives to elude suspicion, yet to satisfy his royal master's desires of imitating Le Grand Monarque, while soothing his offended spirit—make up a trifle, which, with so comical and careful an artist as M. Levassor for centre, we almost fancied, at the moment, as profound and as pointed as a scene by Beaumarchais. One glimpse of his forcible-feeble Highness, is worth the price of a stall.

MISCELLANEA

Paris Academy of Sciences, May 8.—M. Arago made a communication of the discovery of a telescopic comet, by M. Mauvais, on the 2d instant, (*ante*, p. 470). M. Arago joined to this communication some remarks on the most celebrated of all comets, that of Halley, which made its last appearance in 1835. Our readers are aware that several astronomers have examined the Chinese records, for the purpose of ascertaining whether any observation had been made on the appearance of Halley's comet. The researches of M. Biot have shown that Halley's comet was observed in China on the 26th of Sept. 1378; and M. Arago has compared the observations made in Europe on Halley's comet, and finds them coincide so perfectly with the observations made in China on the comet of 1378, that he entertains no doubt that the comet was that called Halley's comet.—A report was read on a paper by M. Payer, entitled 'Inquiries into the tendency of stalks and stems towards the light.' It had long been known that plants placed in the dark incline towards any opening which admits the light, but it was not known which of the solar rays caused this tendency. M. Payer has resolved the point. He examined the solar action first by movable coloured glasses used as screens, and, secondly by a fixed spectrum. The four glasses which he used allowed only certain rays to pass, viz.:—No. 1, red; No. 2, red, orange, yellow, and green; No. 3, red, light orange, yellow, green, and blue; No. 4, red and violet. The two first caused no inclination; but the other two rapidly produced that effect.—M. Dufresnoy read a report on a paper by M. Paillet on the geological character of the earth, which, in Sicily and Calabria, contains sulphur. M. Paillet concluded that the sulphur is the result of the decomposition of the

gypsum under the influence of the igneous phenomena. —A communication was made by M. Beaudé on the subject of mineral waters sold in earthenware bottles. For some time past there have been several complaints as to the quality of the Eau de Vichy, sold in bottles of this description, and the deterioration was supposed to have been caused by the decomposition by the contents of the substances of which the vessels in which it is contained are composed. M. Beaudé states that he has analyzed the waters contained in earthenware bottles, and has found no trace of the decomposition which was supposed to exist. He concludes that these bottles are quite as good for the purpose for which they are used as glass. This opinion is in opposition to that of M. Rognetta, who asserts that several kinds of mineral waters, which are sold in earthenware bottles, are deteriorated by the reaction of the mineral elements of the water upon those of the bottle, the mixture of the produce of this reaction in the liquid, and the mechanical infiltration of the liquid in the pores of the bottle. He concludes that it is improper to send mineral waters from the sources which supply them in any other way than glass bottles of the best quality.

Caricatures.—There is a new artist and humourist in the field, or we are mistaken. Here we have an etching, by "Pam," of Sir Robert as an Income Tax collector presenting his demand to the keeper of a china shop, who significantly, but with savage resolution not to be shaken, bids him "Take it out in China." The very crockery seems to threaten, and a brace of brandy-flasks in the form of pistols are ominous of the issue. The state of trade and circumstances are cleverly intimated by the accessories—the spiders have woven their webs in places which good ale should have moistened—the ugly "mugs" grin at the collector—a little Staffordshire poodle has turned his back on a Staffordshire Wellington, and looks unutterable things—even a China jar has a history on the face of it.

The Speaking Machine.—I have as yet seen no notice in your valuable periodical of an invention, which is, at present, attracting great attention here, and which certainly merits every praise that can be bestowed upon unwearied perseverance and successful ingenuity. It is the *Sprachmaschine* or the Speaking Machine, not quite appropriately called Euphonia, of Mr. Faber, the result of a beautiful adaptation of mechanics to the laws of acoustics. You are aware that the attempts of Cagniard la Tour, Biot, Müller, Steinle, to produce articulate sounds, or even to imitate the human voice, have not been very successful; in fact, our knowledge of the physiology of the larynx and its appendages has been so limited, that we have not even an explanation of the mode in which the falsetto is produced. Mr. Faber's instrument solves the difficulties. I can only give you a very imperfect idea of the instrument. To understand the mechanism perfectly, it would be necessary to take it to pieces, and the dissection naturally is not shown the visitor—less from a wish to conceal anything, than from the time and labour necessary for such a purpose. The machine consists of a pair of bellows at present only worked by a pedal similar to that of an organ, of a caustic imitation of the larynx, tongue, nostrils, and of a set of keys by which the springs are brought into action. [The further description would be unintelligible without diagrams.] The rapidity of utterance depends of course upon the rapidity with which the keys are played, and though my own attempts to make the instrument speak sounded rather ludicrous, Mr. Faber was most successful. There is no doubt that the machine may be much improved, and more especially that the *timbre* of the voice may be agreeably modified. The weather naturally affects the tension of the Indian rubber, and although Mr. Faber can raise the voice or depress it, and can lay a stress upon a particular syllable or a word, still one cannot avoid feeling that there is room for improvement. This is even more evident when the instrument is made to sing, but when we remember what difficulty many people have to regulate their own chord of voices, it is not surprising that Mr. Faber has not yet succeeded in giving us an instrumental Catalani or Lablache. Faber is a native of Freiburg, in the Grand Duchy of Baden—he was formerly attached to the Observatory at Vienna, but owing to an affection of the eyes, was obliged to retire upon a small pension; he then devoted himself to the study of anatomy, and now offers the results of his investigations and their application to mechanics, to the world of science. Hanburgh, March 31. I am, &c. S.

Lotteries.—*Hereford Art-Union.*—With a view to aid in extending a love for the Arts of Design, and to give encouragement beyond that afforded by the patronage of individuals, it has been proposed to purchase by means of Shares, on the principle of the Great Art-Union of London, the Pictures of Mr. —, &c. &c. Plan.—The purchase to be effected by the following mode, viz.:—325 Shares of one guinea each, being the total amount of the prices of the whole of the pictures. To be disposed of by lot after the manner of the London Art-Union; and in addition to the equal chance afforded of each subscriber becoming possessed of a valuable work of art, each share will be entitled to a Splendid and Valuable Etching, on copper, of the Prize No. 1. Mr. — having liberally volunteered to give an original finished Etching on copper, which will be carefully etched by himself.

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